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EASTERN

F.O.
371

1948

PALESTINE

FILE No. 4

pp 6015 — 6089

68550

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FO 371					
68550					
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659

E

E 6015

2

10 MAY 1948

PALESTINE

Registry Number E6015/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM Sir. H. Mack No. BAGDAD 506

Dated 9th May Received 10th in Registry

Palestine Truce.

Refers Foreign Office telegram to Cairo No, 663 dated May 8th. (E6014/4/31) Message delivered to Regent, Iraq Prime Minister and Prime Ministers of Syria and Lebanon. Gives their comments on same.

Last Paper.

6014

(Minutes.)

J.B. 13/V

References.

68550

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8. Palestine Revue May 4

(Action completed.)

(Index)

[Signature]

[Signature]

Next Paper.

6016

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FO 371 | **68550**

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Cypher/OTP. DIPLOMATIC SECRET DISTRIBUTION.

FROM BAGDAD TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Sir H. Mack. D. 6.50 p.m. 9th May, 1948.

No. 506.

R. 8.15 p.m. 9th May, 1948.

9th May, 1948.

Repeated to B.M.E.O. Cairo

Amman,
Damascus,
Jedda,
Jerusalem,
Washington,
United Kingdom Delegation New York.

E. 6015

10 MAY 1948

MOST IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 506 of 9th

May. repeated for information to B.M.E.O. Cairo, Amman, Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, Jerusalem, Washington and United Kingdom Delegation New York.

Your telegram No. 663 to Cairo.

Palestine.

I saw Regent, Iraqi Prime Minister and Prime Ministers of Syria and Lebanon together at 1400 hours local time today. Iraqi Minister for Foreign Affairs and my Oriental Counsellor were also present.

2. I delivered your message and copy of truce terms as given in your telegram No. 508 to Jedda to the Regent and the three Prime Ministers. Translations of both documents in Arabic were then read by Oriental Counsellor.

3. Prime Ministers of Syria and Lebanon who had heard of your message at 0700 h. will leave Damascus early tomorrow (Monday) morning with Iraqi Minister for Foreign Affairs and meeting of Arab League Political Committee will be held there Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning. I strongly urged that the meeting should take place on Monday afternoon as there was no time to be lost. His Majesty's Minister at Damascus will be informed of decision either on Monday evening or Tuesday morning.

4. Syrian Prime Minister explained that no single Arab country could take a decision and that this could only be taken by the League. Ibn Saud had however agreed to accept League decision on this matter.

5. Only point on which criticism was made was reference to immigration in Article 8 in regard to which both Syrian and Lebanese Prime Ministers especially the latter expressed their anxiety about entrusting this question, principle of which the Arabs had never accepted, to a

/Security Council

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Bagdad telegram No.506 to F.O.

- 2 -

Security Council Truce Commission of whose composition they were ignorant. I appealed to them not to be sticky over this and repeated parts of your personal message.

6. They expressed considerable satisfaction at the terms of Article 6 and said that the Jews would find it hard to accept. I said that this made it all the more necessary for the Arabs to take your advice and to accept the document without quibbling.

7. At one stage the Lebanese Prime Minister suggested (I think he was only thinking [grp.undec.] that this time the Arabs might delay their reply and leave it to the Jews to refuse to agree. I pointed out the following of any such action and the point was not pursued by any of the others.

Foreign Office please pass Most Immediate to B.M.E.O., Amman, Beirut, Cairo, Damascus, Washington and U.K.Delegation New York as my telegrams 212, 88, 73, 247, 58, 34 and 19 respectively.

[Repeated to B.M.E.O. Amman, Beirut, Cairo, Damascus, Washington and U.K.Delegation New York]

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

[Advance copies sent to Secretary of State for the Colonies]

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E 6016

5

1948

PALESTINE

10 MAY 1948

Registry Number E6016/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr, Houstoun
No. Boswall
BEIRUT
Dated 340

Received in Registry } 9th May
10th "

Paletstine Truce.

Refers Foreign Office telegram No, 349 8th May (E6016/4/31) Message delivered to President of Lebanon Minister for Foreign Affairs was also present. Gives Comments on same.

Last Paper.

6015

(Minutes.)

FB-
12/11

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

P. Palestine Truce
May 11

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

GCH/4/1

10/12/48

Next Paper.

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4/1/48

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DIPLOMATIC (SECRET) DISTRIBUTION

FROM BEIRUT TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Houstoun-Boswall, D. 6.30 p.m. 9th May, 1948.
No. 340
9th May, 1948. R. 8.15 p.m. 9th May, 1948.

Repeated to Cairo,
Bagdad,
Amman,
Damascus,
Jedda,
B.M.E.O.
Washington,
UKDEL New York.

E 8016

10 MAY 1948

IMMEDIATE
SECRET
LIGHT

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 340 of May 9th, repeated for information to Cairo, Bagdad, Amman, Damascus, Jedda, B.M.E.O. Washington, UKDEL New York.

Your telegram No. 349. Palestine.

I have delivered your message to the President of Lebanon: Minister for Foreign Affairs was also present.

2. President said that at last meeting of the Arab League at Cairo, the Lebanese had advocated a general truce. His Government would continue to do so. He again expressed doubt about the attitude of King Abdullah. I said that a similar message was being conveyed to His Majesty as well as other Arab leaders.

3. I have just seen Damascus telegram No. 261 to you. Position is the same here as regards the American Minister. The Lebanese Government had not received the latest text and so I gave it to the President as, without it, your message and advice would have carried no weight.

Foreign Office please pass Washington and UKDEL New York as my telegrams Nos. 22 and 25 respectively.

MAY 16 1948 [Repeated to Washington and UKDEL New York]

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

[Copies sent to Secretary of State for the Colonies].

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E 6017 | 7

PALESTINE

MAY 1948

Registry Number E6017/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM
No. Sir. Ronald Campbell
CAIRO
Dated 582
Received in Registry 9th May 10th "

Palestine Truce.

Refers Foreign Office telegram No, 663 dated may 8th (E6014/4/31) Sir, Ronald Campbell saw the Prime Minister but as the palace doubted whether it would be possible to see the King at such short notice he conveyed to his Majesty in writing through Hassan Bey Youssef text of the message.
The Prime Minister was worried over article 8 of the Truce terms.

Last Paper.

6016

(Minutes.)

2/13/48

References.

*Egypt = Dept.
G.M.D 18/5*

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

*1. Palestine Dept
all out*

(Action completed.)

(Inde)

9/11/48 *[Handwritten signatures]*

Next Paper.

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Cypher/OTP

DIPLMATIC SECRET DISTRIBUTION

FROM CAIRO TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir R. Campbell
No. 582.

D: 8.33.p.m. May 9th, 1948.
R: 10.50.p.m. May 9th, 1948.

May 9th, 1948.

Repeated to Amman, Bagdad, Damascus, Jedda, Beirut, Jerusalem,
United Kingdom Delegation New York, Washington.

IMMEDIATE.
TOP SECRET.

E. 6017

Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 582 of May 9th, 1948, repeated
for information to Amman, Jerusalem, United Kingdom Delegation New
York, Washington, Bagdad, Damascus, Jedda, Beirut.

Your telegram 663: Palestine.

I saw the Prime Minister personally but as the Palace expressed
doubt whether it would be possible for me to be received by King
Farouk at short notice today, and in view of the urgency I conveyed
to His Majesty in writing through Hassan Bey Youssef your personal
message, text of provisional draft and substance of paragraph (1)
of New York telegram 1403.

2. Prime Minister promised to give most careful and immediate
consideration to your message which he recognised as being dictated
by your sincere opinion of what was necessary for the purpose of
preventing bloodshed and in the interests of the Arabs. He said
that a truce was very necessary because otherwise it would be
impossible to prevent the entry of Arab forces into Palestine. He
would immediately get in touch with other Arab Governments.

3. Prime Minister was however worried over Article 8 of the
truce terms. He characterised treatment of immigrants as a "bad
point". Arab Higher Committee felt very strongly about immigra-
tion and were unlikely to trust Jews who had asked for 4,000 or more
immigrants monthly not to find the means of defeating the ruling of
the Security Council Truce Commission on the subject whatever it
might be. He asked also how the Powers would guarantee to prevent
the Jews bringing in extra immigrants, arms, etc. Would they dispose
suitable power to carry out local patrolling service? He himself
also clearly feared that the Truce Commission with its American
member would be soft towards the Jews. Another point on which he
seemed to foresee difficulty with Arab Higher Committee was land
purchase which would presumably come under the term "existing laws".

4. I argued that nevertheless he should act on your advice
urgently.

Foreign Office please pass United Kingdom Delegation New York
and Washington as my telegrams 21 and 29.

[Repeated to New York and Washington.

[Advance copies sent to Secretary of State for Colonies].

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662

1948

E

E 6018

9

PALESTINE

10 MAY 1948

Registry Number } E6018/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. Mr. Broadmead
DAMASCUS
261

Dated 9th May

Received in Registry } 10th "

Palestine Truce.

Refers Foreign Office telegram 663 to Cairo dated 8th May (E6014/4/31) When Mr. Broadmead saw Sirdar to check up that latest revision of the proposals in his possession coincided with that contained in Foreign Office telegram 308 to Jedda, United States Legation was decyphering further telegram from Washington, which Minister has now seen and which consists of Syrian articles. Matter is further complicated as United States Charge has not so far been instructed to show to Syrian Government or President text of any proposals. Minister will thus await further instructions.

Last Paper.

6017

(Minutes.)

DB.
13/V

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

~~1/14/48~~
Damasco 290
May 10
Rpta Beirut 362
Cairo 675
Bagdad 466
Amman 259
Jedda 324, U.K. Del N.Y 1972
Washington 5083
BMEO 445.7 / 6/12

(Action completed.)

EP
14/5

(Index.)

14/5

Next Paper.

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~~As Above~~ May 11

~~Tel Damascus
292 May 10.
Apt. Beirut 364,
Cairo 679,
Baghdad 470,
Jeddah 327,
Amman 363,
BMEO 447,
W'om 5102,
New York 1982.]~~

~~As Above~~ May 12
(Copied on E60K)

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Cypher/OTP

DIPLOMATIC SECRET DISTRIBUTION

FROM DAMASCUS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Broadmead
No. 261
9th May, 1948.

D. 3.52 p.m. 9th May, 1948.
R. 3.04 p.m. 9th May, 1948.

Repeated to Amman
Bagdad
Beirut
Cairo
Jedda
Cairo (B.M.E.O.)
New York (U.K.Del.)
Washington

E 6018

10 MAY 1948

MOST IMMEDIATE
TOP SECRET
LIGHT

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 261 repeated to Amman, Bagdad, Beirut, Jedda, Cairo, British Middle East Office Cairo, United Kingdom Delegation New York and Washington.

Your telegram No. 663 to Cairo.

American truce proposals.

I saw Sirdar this morning in order to check up that the latest revision of the proposals in his possession coincided with that contained in your telegram No. 308 to Jedda. Just at that moment United States Legation was decyphering further telegram from Washington which I have now seen and which consists of Syrian articles, one or two of which may possibly be [gp. undec.] as any of modifications laid down.

2. There is a further complication. United States Chargé d'Affaires has not so far been instructed to show to Syrian Government or president text of any proposals and neither he nor I have any idea what [gp. undec.]s if any may be in their hands or how anything may have reached them.

3. In all these circumstances I feel I cannot speak to Syrian President until I receive your further instructions. I presume in any case there would be no question of my leaving with President a copy of American proposals which you may have endorsed although if I discovered that he was not in possession of them I should have no alternative other than to discuss them. [gp. undec.] solution would be of

/course for

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From Damascus to Foreign Office No. 261 11

-2-

course for United States Chargé d'Affaires to be told to hand over copy.

Foreign Office please pass Most Immediate to United Kingdom Delegation New York and Washington as my telegrams Nos. 50 and 30 respectively.

[Repeated Most Immediate to United Kingdom Delegation New York and Washington and copies sent to Secretary of State for Colonies]

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Registry
No. *S. 6015/4/31*

Secret
E. A. B. B.

Draft.
Damascus.

Telegram.

No. *290*

Dated. *May 10*

Repeat to:

Beirut *2062*

Cairo *2070*

Bagdad *466 immediate*

Amman *207*

Jedda *2024*

U.K. Delegation,
New York *1972*

Washington *5083*

BME 445

Cypher

Diplomatic Secret

CYPHER

May 1948

Despatched *15/11* M.

MOST IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Addressed to Damascus No. *290*
of *10th* May. Repeated for inform-

ation to Cairo, Beirut, Bagdad, Amman,
BME
Jedda, U.K. Delegation, New York, and

Washington. *to me and your tel No 261*

Beirut telegram No. 341 [of May 9th:

Palestine truce negotiations].

It is essential that Syrian Govern-

ment and other Arab representatives

meeting in Damascus should have up to

date text of truce proposals. I ~~have~~

~~already~~ asked U.K. Delegation, New York,

on May 8
to try to arrange this through

Americans. If there is still any

doubt on the matter and unless your

American colleague sees strong ob-

jection, please ensure that the Syrian

Government have a copy of the latest

proposals, i.e. those in my telegram

No. /

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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No. 308 to Jeddah
as amended by U.K. Delegation, New York,
telegram No. 1436.

~~BASS~~
~~10:5~~

2. We have not yet
fully considered amendments
in Delegation No. 1436
but will telegraph any
comments as soon as
possible.

BASS
10:5

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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OUTWARD TELEGRAM

13

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Secret.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO DAMASCUS

No. 290

10th May, 1948. D. 1.55 p.m. 10th May, 1948.
Repeated to Beirut No. 362)
Cairo No. 675)
Bagdad No. 466) (Immediate)
Amman No. 359)
Jedda No. 324)
United Kingdom Delegation New York No. 1972
Washington No. 5083
British Middle East Office No. 445

MOST IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Addressed to Damascus No. 290 of 10th May.
Repeated for information to Cairo, Beirut, Bagdad,
Amman, Jedda, British Middle East Office, United
Kingdom Delegation New York, and Washington.

Beirut telegram No. 341 to me and your telegram
No. 261 [of May 9th: Palestine truce negotiations].

It is essential that Syrian Government and other
Arab representatives meeting in Damascus should have
up to date text of truce proposals. I asked
United Kingdom Delegation, New York, on May 8th to try
to arrange this through Americans. If there is still
any doubt on the matter and unless your American
colleague sees strong objection, please ensure that the
Syrian Government have a copy of the latest proposals,
i.e. those in my telegram No. 308 to Jedda as amended
by United Kingdom Delegation, New York, telegram
No. 1436.

2. We have not yet fully considered amendments
in Delegation telegram No. 1436 but will telegraph any
comments as soon as possible.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

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Registered
 No. **26018/4/31**

Top Secret.
 Secret.
 Confidential.
 Restricted.
 Open.

Draft.

Damascus
 Tel No. 292
 DATE May 16th
 Appeal Algeria
 364 ~~364~~
 679 ~~679~~ Cairo
 470 Bagdad
 327 Jeddah
 363 Amman
 447 BMEC
 5702 Washington
 UK Del ~~UK Del~~
 1982

MAY 1948

Dip. Secret
 65 by Mr. Matthews
 C.O.

Addressed Damascus tel no. 292
 of May 10th repeated for information to Beirut,
 Cairo, Bagdad, Jeddah, Amman, BMEC, etc.
 UK Del New York.

Immediate Date **14**
 Despatched: **14**

Confidential

My tel. No 290 [of May 10:
 Palestine truce].

Amendments in UK Del
 N.York tel. No 1436 do
 not seem to affect the
 draft substantially and we
 therefore continue to regard
 it as generally fair &
 reasonable. You should
 not this be known to
 Arab representatives. High
 Commissioner is being instructed
 to inform France Commission in
 Jerusalem accordingly. **18/5/48**

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(2/47) (14728) W. 11489-144 250m 5/47 G.S.S.

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Σ 6018/43 FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO DAMASCUS

No. 292

D.10.55 p.m. 10th May, 1948.

10th May, 1948.

Repeated to Beirut	No. 364
Cairo	No. 679
Bagdad	No. 470
Jedda	No. 327
Amman	No. 363
B.M.E.O.	No. 447
Washington	No. 5102
New York U.K.Del.	No. 1982

IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

My telegram No. 290. [of May 10th: Palestine truce.]

Amendments in United Kingdom Delegation New York telegram No. 1436 do not seem to affect the draft substantially and we therefore continue to regard it as generally fair and reasonable. You should let this be known to Arab representatives. High Commissioner is being instructed to inform Truce Commission in Jerusalem accordingly.

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PALESTINE

MAY 1948

Registry Number E6021/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. Sir. H. Mack
BAGDAD
504

Dated

Received in Registry 8th May
10th "

Palestine, Situation at Safad.

Refers Foreign Office telegram to Damascus No, 273 (E5950/4/31) Action has been taken but has little hope that Iraqi Government will be able to take effective action. Minister for Foreign Affairs blamed agencies and also said that the thousands of refugees from Palestine could not fail to spread alarming reports.

Last Paper.

6020

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8. Palestine Sect.
May 11

(Action completed.)

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25/5

6/12/48

Next Paper.

6022

(Minutes.)

JB May 11

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POLITICAL DISTRIBUTION

FROM BAGDAD TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir H. Mack,
No. 504
8th May, 1948.

D. 4.06 p.m. 9th May, 1948.

R. 6.55 p.m. 9th May, 1948.

Repeated to B.M.E.O. Cairo,
Damascus,
Jedda,
Amman,
Beirut,
UKDEL New York.

E 6021

10 MAY 1948

IMPORTANT
CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 504 of 8th May, repeated for information to B.M.E.O. Cairo, Damascus, Jedda, Amman, Beirut and UKDEL New York.

Your telegram No. 273 to Damascus. E 1 / 31

I have taken action with the Minister for Foreign Affairs but I have little hope that Iraqi Government will be able to take effective action. Minister for Foreign Affairs blamed agencies and also said that the thousands of refugees from Palestine could not fail to spread alarming reports.

Foreign Office please pass to United Kingdom Delegation New York as my telegram 17.

[Repeated to UKDEL New York].

QQQQQ

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Reference: -	FO 371 68550
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E

E 6022

18

10 MAY 1918

Registry Number E6022/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. Sir, Elec,
Kirkbride
AMMAN

Dated 301

Received in Registry 8th May
10th "Palestine, Communications to Arab Governments.

Refers Foreign Office telegram No, 313 dated May 5th (E5615/4/G) Suggests that advice given in para 5 of telegram under reference should not in any case be given before the end if the mandate otherwise it might be interpreted by yhe Arabs as an invitation to occupy Arab arears immediately.

Last Paper.

6021

(Minutes.)

31
Separate minute
at E 6027 JB May 12

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

S. Palestine Dept
May 11

(Action completed.)

Index

[Signature]
20/5/18

Next Paper.

6023

32003 F.O.P.

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19
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FROM AMMAN TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Sir A. Kirkbride
No. 301

D. 6.59 p.m. 8th May 1948
R. 9.5 p.m. 8th May 1948

8th May 1948.

Repeated to U.K. Delegation New York
Bagdad,
Beirut,
Cairo
Damascus
Jedda
B.M.E.O. Cairo
Jerusalem

E 6022

10 MAY 1948

IMPORTANT.
TOP SECRET.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 301 of May 8th repeated for information to United Kingdom Delegation New York, Bagdad, Beirut, Cairo, Damascus, Jedda, B.M.E.O. Cairo and Jerusalem.

Palestine.

Your telegram No. 313 paragraph 5.

I suggest that advice referred to should not in any case be given before the end of the Mandate otherwise it might be interpreted by the Arabs as an invitation to occupy Arab areas immediately.

Foreign Office please pass to United Kingdom Delegation New York and Jedda as my telegrams Nos. 33 and 34 respectively.

[Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation New York and Jedda].

[Copies sent to Secretary of State for the Colonies].

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

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E

E 6023

20

8761

PALESTINE

10 MAY 1948

Registry Number E6023/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. Mr. Houston Boswall BEIRUT

Dated 336

Received in Registry 8th May 10th "

Palestine. Communications to Arab Governments.

Refers Foreign Office telegram No, 313 to Amman dated 5th May (E5615/4/G) If H.M. Minister, Amman is in a position to confirm that King Abdullah does not propose to occupy more than arrears, thinks it would be unwise to give any advice at all. On the other hand if it is his intention to endeavour to occupy the whole of Palestine, advice should be given only to him.

Last Paper.

6022

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8. Palestine News May

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

Next Paper.

6025

(Minutes.)

Separate minute a. E6027 JB May 12

On his copy of minute no 336, the sefs minimized. " This is what I have believed all the time and I am convinced the Jews know. E.B."

D.B. 20/V

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Cypher/OTP. DIPLOMATIC (SECRET) DISTRIBUTION.

FROM BEIRUT TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Houston-Boswall.
No. 336. D. 6.35 p.m. 8th May 1948.

8th May 1948. R. 8.49 p.m. 8th May 1948.

Repeated to: Amman,
Cairo,
Bagdad,
Damascus,
Jedda,
B.M.E.O.,
U.K. Delegation New York and
Washington.

E 6023

10 MAY 1948

TOP SECRET.

LIGHT.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 336 of May 8th, repeated for information to Amman, Cairo, Bagdad, Damascus, Jedda, B.M.E.O., United Kingdom Delegation New York and Washington.

Your telegram No. 313 to Amman.

Palestine.

Impression given to us here by telegrams from Amman over the last few weeks is that in his heart of hearts King Abdullah does not propose to attempt more than occupation of Arab areas. Lebanese Government have suspected this for a long time, but now they appear to have higher hopes.

2. If, therefore, His Majesty's Minister Amman is in a position to confirm that King Abdullah does not (repeat not) propose to occupy more than Arab areas (though he may, if and when his army advances, talk of bigger things in deference to public opinion) I do not think it would be wise to give any advice at all. On the other hand if it is his intention to endeavour to occupy the whole of Palestine, we should, I think, then lose no time in giving the King (but not other Arab Governments) the advice you envisage in a last attempt to save the Arabs from their own foolhardiness and lack of preparation.

3. Should King Abdullah eventually decide only to occupy Arab areas and do so, I expect reactions of Lebanese Christians will be virtually negligible. Moslems, however, will indulge in a certain amount of noisy demonstration and angry protestations that the King was recognising partition de facto. After that had died down, as it would probably if the King were to invite other Arab States to do something about it

/themselves, the time

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Beirut telegram to Foreign Office No. 336.

- 2 -

themselves, the time might be propitious for prelude to some settlement between the Jews and Arabs, especially if latter were able to establish themselves in area occupied on a sound military basis.

(London only). Foreign Office pass to United Kingdom Delegation New York and Washington as my telegrams Nos. 24 and 21 respectively.

(Cairo only). Please pass MEMIN as my telegram No. 99.

[Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation, New York and Washington.]

[Advance copies sent to Secretary of State for Colonies.]

W:W:W:W

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668

E

E 6025

23

PALESTINE

MAY 1948

Registry Number E6025/4/31

Port of Haifa, Jewish Immigration.

TELEGRAM FROM
Sir, Alec
Kirkbride
No. AMMAN
306
Dated
Received 6th May
in Registry 10th "

Refers Foreign Office telegram No, 414 to B.M.E.O. dated 6th May (E5136/4/31) Azzam was told about the port of Haifa not being used for immigration during military withdrawal. He had apparently argued with the High Commissioner that food supplies for Jews during that period would be of direct military assistance to them whilst on the Arab side the shortage was that of Arms and ammunition.

Last Paper.

6023

(Minutes.)

J.S. Lewis
May 11

References.

J.S.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

S. Valentin
May 11

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

[Handwritten signatures and dates]

Next Paper.

6026

32003 F.O.P.

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POLITICAL DISTRIBUTION

FROM AMMAN TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir A. Kirkbride D. 7. 40 p.m. 8th May, 1948.
No. 306
8th May, 1948. R. 9. 20 p.m. 8th May, 1948

Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation New York

Washington
Bagdad Saving
Beirut Saving
Cairo Saving
Damascus Saving
Jedda Saving
B.M.E.O. Saving
Jerusalem Saving

E 6025

10 MAY 1948

SECRET

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 306 May 8th repeated for information to U.K. Del. New York and Washington and Saving to Bagdad, Beirut, Cairo, Damascus, Jedda, B.M.E.O., and Jerusalem.

Palestine.

Your telegram No. 414 to B.M.E.O.

I told Azzam this morning about Haifa Port not being used for immigration during military withdrawal. He had apparently talked on this point with the High Commissioner for Palestine at their meeting yesterday and had argued that food supplies to Jews during that period would be of direct military assistance to the latter who were short of food whilst on the Arab side the shortage was that of arms and ammunition.

Foreign Office pass U.K. Del. and Washington as my telegrams Nos. 37 and 26 respectively.

[Repeated to U.K. Del. New York and Washington]

MAY 10 1948

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FO 371 | **68550**

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1948

E

PALESTINE

E 6026 ²⁵

10 MAY 1948

Registry Number E6026/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

Sir. H. Mack

No. BAGDAD 505

Dated

Received 9th May

in Registry 10th "

Palestine, Communications to Arab Governments

Refers Foreign Office telegram No, 270 to Damascus. (E5816/4/G) Spoke to Minister for Foreign Affairs who said that he was in favour of a truce on two conditions. Gives texts of these.

Last Paper.

3025

(Minutes.)

References.

Mr Dalton ^{AB} 12/11

Mr S. Bevin
Mar 12

PAGE

1205

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

V. P. ...
11/11/48

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

12/11/48

20/12/48

Next Paper.

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Cypher/OTP

DIPLOMATIC SECRET DISTRIBUTION

FROM BAGDAD TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir H. Mack.
No. 505.

D. 7.48. a.m. 10th May 1948.

9th May 1948.

R. 10.25. a.m. 10th May 1948.

Repeated to B.M.E.O.,
Cairo,
Beirut,
Damascus,
Jedda,
Amman,
Jerusalem,
U.K. Delegation New York,
Washington.

E 6020

10 MAY 1948

IMPORTANT

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 505 of
May 10th repeated for information to B.M.E.O., Cairo,
Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, Amman, Jerusalem, U.K. Delegation
New York and Washington.

Your telegram No. 270 to Damascus.

I have spoken to the Minister for Foreign Affairs
accordingly. He gave me his usual long dissertation
about Palestine. It is always difficult to bring him to
face the facts of the present situation. He did, however,
say he personally was anxious that bloodshed should cease
and that he was in favour of a truce on two conditions:

a) that status quo ante should be restored by which
he meant that the Jews should vacate positions which
they have recently occupied by force and that the
situation should be "frozen" and (b) that the fundamental
rights of the Arabs should be preserved.

By (b) he meant that the Arabs should not be expected
to agree to partition. I strongly urged that Azzam should
accept the High Commissioner's invitation to meet him at
Jericho. (Jerusalem telegram 1280 to the Secretary of
State).

Foreign Office only. Please pass to U.K. Delegation
New York and Washington as my telegrams 18 and 33.

[Repeated to U.K. Delegation New York and Washington.]

[Advance copies sent to Secretary of State for
Colonies.]

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E

E 6027

1948

PALESTINE

10 MAY 1948

Registry Number E6027/4/31
 TELEGRAM FROM
 Mr. Broadmead
 No. DAMASCUS
 258
 Dated 8th May
 Received in Registry 10th "

Palestine, Communications to Arab Governments.

Refers Foreign Office telegram No, 313 dated 5th May (E5615/4/31) Gives particulars of two difficulties foreseen in suggesting to Syrians that after May 15th Arabs should confine themselves to consolidating Arabs arears. Suggests it might be better to let Arabs themselves make proposals.

Last Paper.

100

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

3) Palestine Dist. May 11.

(Action completed.)

G. C. M. 19/4

(Index)

20/1/44

Next Paper.

E. 6028

(Minutes.)

Separate minute JB May 12 with in.

In P.P. 4.0 Minute in Sect 12/5

JB May 19

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6027 4 11

Possible advice to Arab Governments about the period after May 15th.

(E 5615, E 6022, E 6023 and E 6027).

We asked Arab posts in our telegram No. 313 to Amman whether it would now be desirable for us to say something to Arab leaders about the period after May 15th. If so, we should presumably advise them against attempting to do more than consolidate the Arab areas of Palestine against further Jewish expansion.

We have so far received the views of our Representatives at Damascus, Amman and Beirut. None of them favour our giving advice on these lines at present. Sir A. Kirkbride does not reject the principle of such advice, but says that to give it before the end of the mandate might be interpreted as an invitation to occupy Arab areas immediately. Mr. Broadmead says that by so doing we should be endorsing the principle of partition and would prefer to let the Arabs make their own proposals to us. Mr. Houstoun-Boswall does not think we should give such advice unless we knew that King Abdullah really meant to go further than the Arab areas.

I think Mr. Houstoun-Boswall has put his finger on the principal point. In the present military situation, the Jews being predominant and the Arab States hesitant and disorganised, it seems unlikely that King Abdullah would attempt to hold more than the Arab areas. There seems a strong prospect of co-operation between King Abdullah and the Jews. There have been talks between the Hagana and the Arab Legion. In these circumstances, we do not seem called upon to give further advice to the Arab States (we have given a good deal already) and would do better to hold off for the present.

J. S. Beir
(BEIRUT)
12th May, 1948.

I think this is right.

B. B. S. ...
12.5

M. H. ...
12.5

I agree

B. B. S. ...
12

J. S. Beir
12

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81	Palestine	E 6028 / G 10 30
E 6028/4 / ^{31/C} F.O. Minute Secretary of State 7 - 5 - 48 10 - 5 - 48	Palestine Truce Proposals.	
Last Paper E 6013	(Minutes) 1) Tedda tel. No. 186 of 8/5	
References	RA. Clinton Thomas 11/5 (RA. CLINTON THOMAS) LP 13/5	
(Print)		
(How disposed of) Tel) Tedda 303 Rpta. Cairo 649 Bagdad 441. Beirut 342 Damascus 274 B.M.E.O. 423 Wilton. 16989 New York 1921 Amman. 338.		
(Action completed) Lm 14/5	(Index) Lm	
Next Paper		

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Registry
No. E 6028/4/9

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Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

B.A.B.B.

Draft.
Jedda.

Telegram.

No. 303
(Date) May 74.

Repeat to :-

Cairo 6 + 7.
Bagdad 7 + 1
Beirut 3 + 2
Damascus 27 +
B.M.E.O. 4 + 3
Washington 49 + 9
U.K. Delegation,
New York. 17 + 1
Amman 550

~~En Clair~~
~~Code~~
Cypher.

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Diplomatic Secret

Copies to :-

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CYPHER 31

May 1948.

Despatched 45 M.

MOST IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

E 6028 / 10

Addressed to Jedda No. 303 of 7th

May. Repeated for information to Cairo,
Bagdad, Beirut, Damascus, B.M.E.O., Amman
Washington and U.K. Delegation, New York.

Press reports that Syrian and Lebanese
Prime Ministers have gone to Riyadh to
consult Ibn Saud on Palestine truce
proposals.

2. It is not clear exactly which
proposals they intend to discuss. I presume
it is the latest version of the draft
originally sent to us in U.K. Delegation,
New York, telegram No. 1283, in which case
the chief difficulty from the Arab point of
view is likely to be the numbers of Jewish
immigrants allowed during the truce period.

3. You should send a message urgently
to Ibn Saud from me to the effect that
in my view this is the really critical
moment for the future of Palestine and that
I hope the Arabs will weigh very carefully
the whole situation before reaching any
decision. I do not want to put any
pressure on them with regard to the details
of any truce proposals, but they should
know that in my view the conclusion of a
temporary truce, even if it does not

represent/

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U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1947 O-555-555

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FO 371 68550

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represent a hundred per cent of their demands, would be the greatest possible contribution that anyone could make to the future welfare, not only of Palestine, but of the Arab States themselves. If the question of immigration is the only stumbling-block, they might consider the point that, failing a truce, there will after we have gone be no means whatever of restricting Jewish immigration, so that many thousands of Jews are likely to enter Palestine in a short period. In these circumstances, it is surely better to agree to a figure somewhat in excess of the present rate, provided that this is incorporated in an agreement with United Nations backing.

4. If there is no truce, the results of open warfare in Palestine would be incalculable both as regards the outcome of the conflict in Palestine itself and as regards the effect on the internal situation in the Arab States, most of which have not the political, economic or military resources to carry on a prolonged struggle of this kind. I am sure that Ibn Saud will realise the danger ~~to his own position~~ if extremist influence were able in such conditions to assert itself in the neighbouring Arab States.

5. Even if, ~~with~~ ^{in spite of} Arab agreement, there is still likely to be difficulty in securing ^{agreement} to abandoning the proclamation of a Jewish State immediately after May 15th, the legal and tactical position of the Arabs would/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

FO 371 68550

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32

would have been immensely strengthened if they accepted, while the Jews refused.

[Cairo Only] Please pass to BMEC as my file no. 423.

VAD

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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33
DIPLOMATIC (SECRET) DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO JEDDA

No. 303

D. 2.45 p.m. 7th May, 1948.

7th May, 1948.

Repeated to Cairo	No. 649
Bagdad	No. 441
Beirut	No. 342
Damascus	No. 274
B.M.S.O.	No. 423
Washington	No. 4989
New York (U.K. Del.)	No. 1921
Amman	No. 338

MOST IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Jedda No. 303 of 7th May. Repeated for information to Cairo, Bagdad, Beirut, Damascus, B.M.S.O., Amman, Washington and United Kingdom Delegation, New York.

Press reports that Syrian and Lebanese Prime Ministers have gone to Riyadh to consult Ibn Saud on Palestine truce proposals.

2. It is not clear exactly which proposals they intend to discuss. I presume it is the latest version of the draft originally sent to us in United Kingdom Delegation, New York, telegram No. 1283, in which case the chief difficulty from the Arab point of view is likely to be the numbers of Jewish immigrants allowed during the truce period.

3. You should send a message urgently to Ibn Saud from me to the effect that in my view this is the really critical moment for the future of Palestine and that I hope the Arabs will weigh very carefully the whole situation before reaching any decision. I do not want to put any pressure on them with regard to the details of any truce proposals, but they should know that in my view the conclusion of a temporary truce, even if it does not represent a hundred per cent of their demands, would be the greatest possible contribution that anyone could make to the future welfare, not only of Palestine, but of the Arab States themselves. If the question of immigration is the only stumbling-block, they might consider the point that, failing a truce, there will after we have gone be no means whatever of restricting Jewish immigration, so that many thousands of Jews are likely to enter Palestine in a short period. In these circumstances, it is surely better to agree to a figure somewhat in excess of the present rate, provided that this is incorporated in an agreement with United Nations backing.

/4. If there is

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Foreign Office telegram No. 303 to Jeddah

- 2 -

4. If there is no truce, the results of open warfare in Palestine would be incalculable both as regards the outcome of the conflict in Palestine itself and as regards the effect on the internal situation in the Arab States, most of which have not the political, economic or military resources to carry on a prolonged struggle of this kind. I am sure that Ibn Saud will realise the danger if extremist influence were able in such conditions to assert itself in the neighbouring Arab States.

5. Even if, in spite of Arab agreement, there is still likely to be difficulty in securing Jewish agreement to abandoning the proclamation of a Jewish State immediately after May 15th, the legal and tactical position of the Arabs would have been immensely strengthened if they accepted, while the Jews refused.

[Cairo only] Please pass to British Middle East Office as my telegram No. 423.

///

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En clair

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E 108 34
DIPLOMATIC (SECRET)

DISTRIBUTION

FROM JEDDA TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Trott. D. 11.40 a.m. 8th May, 1948.
No. 186.

8th May, 1948. R. 12.57 p.m. 8th May, 1948.

Repeated to Damascus and Beirut.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 186 of 8th May, repeated for information to Damascus and Beirut.

Your telegram No. 303 to Jeddah.

Message communicated.

[Advance copies sent to Secretary of State for the Colonies].

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

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672

E

E 6029

35

1948

11 MAY 1948

Registry Number E6029/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM Mr. Broadhead No. DAMASCUS 263

Dated 10th May Received in Registry 11th "

Palestine Truce.

Azzam said that according to a message just received from Jerusalem the Jews had been creeping forward in spite of the cease fire and were now within 30 yards of Arab positions in Katamon. He wished this information urgently conveyed to His Majesty's Government and the High Commissioner. He was replying to effect that local commander should inform the Palestine Government accordingly and that the Arabs were not to fire unless their lines were in danger.

Last Paper.

6028

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Palatins dit
May 12
(Copied on 26055)

(Action completed.)

(Index)

[Signature]

[Signature]
12/48

Next Paper.

6030

(Minutes.)

Jerusalem will no doubt comment.

[Signature]
a/v

[Signature]

12.5

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Cypher/OTP

36
E 6029

POLITICAL DISTRIBUTION
FROM DAMASCUS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

11 MAY 1948

Mr. Broadmead
No. 265
May 10th, 1948.

D. 5.1 p.m. May 10th, 1948.

R. 6.52 p.m. May 10th, 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem.

IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 265 May 10th
repeated for information to Jerusalem.

Azzam Pasha sent for me this afternoon to say that according to a message just received from Jerusalem the Jews had been creeping forward in spite of the cease fire and were now within 30 yards of Arab positions in Katamon. He wished this information urgently conveyed to you and the High Commissioner.

2. He said he was replying to the effect that local commander should inform the Palestine Government accordingly and that the Arabs were not to fire unless their lines were in danger. He cited this as a further example of Jewish bad faith.

[Advance copies sent to Secretary of State for
the Colonies]

SSSSS 11

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673

E

E 6030

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1948

PALESTINE

11 MAY 1948

Registry Number | E6030/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr. Broadmead
No. DAMASCUS
265

Dated 10th May
Received in Registry 11th "

Truce Proposals.

Refers Foreign Office telegram No, 290 dated 10th May (E6018/4/31) Lat st text of truce proposals was handed to the President with explanation that it was being handed over unofficially in order that the political Committee of the Arab League should not be discussing something out of date.
Gives text of discussion that took place.

Last Paper.

6029

(Minutes.)

MS. 10/12/48

DB. 11/12

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

*8. Palestine Dist
May 12
(Copied on 2/1/55)*

(Action completed.)

(Initials.)

12/15 *12/16*

Next Paper.

6031

32008 F.O.P.

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FO 371					
68550					
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Cypher/OTP

DIPLOMATIC (SECRET)
DISTRIBUTION

FROM DAMASCUS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Broadmead
No. 265

D. 8.21 pm. 10th May, 1948.
R. 9.44 pm. 10th May, 1948.

10th May, 1948.

Repeated to Jeddah

Cairo
Bagdad
Jerusalem
Amman
B.M.E.O. Cairo
U.K. Delegation New York
Washington

E 6630

11 MAY 1948

MOST IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 265 of 10th May, repeated for information to Jeddah, Cairo, Bagdad, Jerusalem, Amman, British Middle East Office Cairo, United Kingdom Delegation New York and Washington.

Your telegram No. 290.

Truce Proposals.

As United States Chargé d' Affaires had no objection I gave the President this evening latest text which I explained was being handed over unofficially by me in order that political committee of the Arab League meeting here tomorrow should not be discussing something out of date. Actually while I was there the President opened a letter which he said contained the latest text from New York. Prime Minister who was present looked through new text hurriedly and said it seemed far worse than the earlier one. Prime Minister who was in one of his impossible moods seemed to make the President less calm than usual and although I tried to make them both see the necessity for a truce I certainly did not get very far in the prevailing atmosphere. I said I could not discuss changes in the latest text. However they said they would consider them.

2. I also took this opportunity of giving the President the message contained in your telegram No. 307 to Jeddah making it clear it was written on the basis of the earlier proposals.

3.

/ 3. Fall of Safad



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Reference:-
FO 371 / **68550**

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Damascus telegram No. 265 to F.O.

-2-

3. Fall of Safad and the incident in Katamoon mentioned in my telegram No. 263 were both referred to again. Indeed anything is brought out to support the conviction that the Jews, having already effected partition, they are not going to stop anywhere even if they sign a truce. Pleas about doing nothing which would put the Arabs in the wrong with world opinion did not seem to carry any weight.

4. Earlier in the afternoon when seeing Azzam on other matters we talked generally about a truce on a "personal" basis and I tried every possible argument to convince him, but what seemed then to be worrying him [? grp.ontd] unparalleled political situation.

Foreign Office please pass to Washington and United Kingdom Delegation as my telegrams Nos 31 and 51 respectively.

[Repeated to Washington and United Kingdom Delegation New York].

[Advance copies sent to Secretary of State for Colonies].

466

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Cypher/OTP
Secret.

DIPLOMATIC (SECRET) DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO DAMASCUS

No. 290

10th May, 1948. D. 1.55 p.m. 10th May, 1948.

Repeated to Beirut No. 362 }
Cairo No. 675 }
Bagdad No. 466 } (Immediate)
Amman No. 359 }
Jedda No. 324 }
United Kingdom Delegation New York No. 1972
Washington No. 5083
British Middle East Office No. 445

MOST IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Addressed to Damascus No. 290 of 10th May.
Repeated for information to Cairo, Beirut, Bagdad,
Amman, Jedda, British Middle East Office, United
Kingdom Delegation New York, and Washington.

Beirut telegram No. 541 to me and your telegram
No. 261 [of May 9th: Palestine truce negotiations].

It is essential that Syrian Government and other
Arab representatives meeting in Damascus should have
up to date text of truce proposals. I asked
United Kingdom Delegation, New York, on May 8th to try
to arrange this through Americans. If there is still
any doubt on the matter and unless your American
colleague sees strong objection, please ensure that the
Syrian Government have a copy of the latest proposals,
i.e. those in my telegram No. 508 to Jedda as amended
by United Kingdom Delegation, New York, telegram
No. 1456.

2. We have not yet fully considered amendments
in Delegation telegram No. 1456 but will telegraph any
comments as soon as possible.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

EEEE

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674

E

E 6031

41

PALESTINE

11 MAY 1948

Registry Number E6031/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM
United Kingdom
No. Delegation
NEW YORK
Dated 1442
Received in Registry 10th May
11th "

Palestine, Report by Moshe Shertok.

Refers Foreign Office telegram No. 1964 Washington asked about this report on behalf of the State Department. Shertok had not then left (Saturday Afternoon) for Palestine and Beeley authorised Dean Rusk to inform him (A) that H.M.G. were wholeheartedly behing the proposal for a truce; (B) that H.M.G. not being in the confidence of Abdullah on this question could give no guarantee whatsoever of the Military plans of the Arab Legion after 15th May.

Last Paper.

6030

(Minutes.)

J.B. ...

References.

BAR 12.5

(Print.)

*Alpha Jerusalem, Cairo 6.50
Beyrut 473, Geneva 325, Constantin 361
Beyrut 361 (How disposed of?) 2913.
GMEC 448.
1 Palestine Dist
May 12.
(Copies on E. 6055)
Tel. New York 2007 May 11
Alpha, London 5155, Cairo
689, Baghdad, 1051, Jamma
371, Geneva 330, Beyrut
372, Damascus 302,
Alpha 4547.
1 Palestine Dist. May
(Copies on E. 6137) B.*

(Action completed.)

(Index)

W.H.K. 10/12/48

W.H.K. 10/12/48

Next Paper.

6032

32003 F.O.P.

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Cypher/OTP

DIPLOMATIC SECRET DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 1442.

D. 11.21. a.m. 10th May 1948.

10th May 1948.

R. 4.43. p.m. 10th May 1948.

Repeated to Washington.

MOST IMMEDIATE

E 6031

TOP SECRET

11 MAY 1948

DEDIP

Addressed Foreign Office No. 1442 of 10th May
repeated for information Washington.

Your telegram No. 1964: Palestine.

On behalf of the State Department, Washington asked us about this report by telephone on Saturday afternoon. Shertok had not then left for Palestine and Beeley authorised Dean Rusk to inform him

(A) that His Majesty's Government were wholeheartedly behind the proposal for a truce;

(B) that His Majesty's Government, not being in the confidence of Abdullah on this question could give no guarantee whatsoever of the military plans of the Arab Legion after 15th May.

2. Beeley added that he was sure the Colonial Secretary's remarks had been distorted in transmission by Shertok.

[Advance copies sent to Secretary of State for the Colonies.]

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat.]

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68550					
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Registry
No. E 6031/4/31

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

BABR

CYPHER

OUT FILE

Important
~~Top Secret~~

Despatched

Draft.

UKDML New York

Telegram.

No. 2007

(Date) May 11

Repeat to:—

Washington 5755
Cairo 481
Bagdad 481
Amman 371
Jedda 334
Beirut 372
Damascus 302
B.M.E.O. 454

H. S.
~~En-Clair~~
~~Cote~~
Cypher.

Distribution:—

Diplomatic Secret

Copies to:—

Mr. Mathieson,
Colonial Office.

Addressed to U.K. Del. New York telno. 2007
Washington
of May 11 Repeated for information to Cairo, Bagdad,
Amman, Jedda, Beirut, Damascus and B.M.E.O.

Your telegram No. 1442 of May 10 : Palestine

U.S. Ambassador asked me on May 10 whether

I thought statements reported in my telegram
No. 1964 were correct. I said I did not yet
know exactly what the Colonial Secretary had said.
I added, however, for the Ambassador's private
information that it had always been our hope that
the Jews would act sensibly and keep within
their own zones, that Jerusalem would be put
under a truce and that King Abdullah might use
his forces temporarily to maintain order in the
Arab areas. This would allow time to discuss
the whole situation and, subject to United Nations
approval, would possibly allow ~~for~~ for a
settlement to be found on the lines of the
Colonial Secretary's proposals (your telegram
No. 1442-A). Even if there were no truce, the
Colonial Secretary's proposal could still be
adopted. I undertook to let the Ambassador
know as soon as I had more details of what the
Colonial Secretary said.

2. Pending the Colonial Secretary's arrival
here, have you any further knowledge of details
of his conversation with Shertok?

Mills

11.5

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(330651) W/L14600/147 100,000 6/47 A.S.E.W.Ltd. Cp.685

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

FO 371

68550

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46

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Cypher/OTP
TOP SECRET

OUT FILE

DIPLOMATIC (SECRET) DISTRIBUTION

6031/4/31

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No. 2007.

D: 2.50.a.m. May 12th, 1948.

May 11th, 1948.

Repeated to Washington No. 5155
Cairo No. 689,
Bagdad No. 481,
Amman No. 371,
Jedda No. 334,
Beirut No. 372,
Damascus No. 502,
B.M.E.O. No. 454.

IM-SECRET

TOP SECRET.

Addressed to United Kingdom Delegation New York telegram No. 2007 of May 11th, repeated for information to Washington, Cairo, Bagdad, Amman, Jedda, Beirut, Damascus and British Middle East Office.

Your telegram No. 1442 [of May 10th: Palestine].

United States Ambassador asked me on May 10th whether I thought statements reported in my telegram No. 1964 were correct. I said I did not yet know exactly what the Colonial Secretary had said. I added, however, for the Ambassador's private information that it had always been our hope that the Jews would act sensibly and keep within their own zones, that Jerusalem would be put under a truce and that King Abdullah might use his forces temporarily to maintain order in the Arab areas. This would allow time to discuss the whole situation and, subject to United Nations approval, would possibly allow for a settlement to be found on the lines of the Colonial Secretary's proposals (your telegram No. 1424A). Even if there were no truce, the Colonial Secretary's proposal could still be adopted. I undertook to let the Ambassador know as soon as I had more details of what the Colonial Secretary said.

2. Pending the Colonial Secretary's arrival here, have you any further knowledge of details of his conversation with Shertok?

---oOo---

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E

E 6033

11 MAY 1948

45

Registry
Number E6033/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. United Kingdom
Delegation
NEW YORK

Dated 1451

Received in Registry 10th May
11th MayPalestine Truce Proposals.

Parodi in his capacity as President of Security Council read texts of telegrams he had received from the Truce Commission and from the French Consul at Jerusalem. From these it seems that whereas H.M.G. had succeeded in obtaining Azzam Pasha's agreement for a Truce in Jerusalem, The Truce Commission had more or less simultaneously obtained from the Jewish Agency a favourable response to a different proposal. Parodi hopes that it will be possible to co-ordinate these proposals and obtain concurrence of both parties.

Last Paper.

6030

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8. Palestine List
May 12.
(Copies on 6035)

(Action
completed.)

(Index)

Next Paper.

6034

(Minutes.)

The High Commissioner's efforts have been cold-shouldered by the Jews, and it may be that the Truce Commission was not put by him sufficiently in the foreground of the picture.

D. Balpin
4/4

B.A.S.

12.5

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Cypher/OTP.

DIPLOMATIC SECRET DISTRIBUTION.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 1451.

D. 8.02 p.m. 10th May, 1948.
R. 1.20 a.m. 11th May, 1948.

10th May, 1948.

E 0030

MOST IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

11 MAY 1948

Addressed to Jerusalem telegram No. 390 of 10th May.

repeated for information to Foreign Office and Washington.

Parodi, in his capacity as President of Security Council, read to us today the texts of telegrams he had received from the Truce Commission and from the French Consul at Jerusalem. It appeared from these telegrams that, whereas you had succeeded in obtaining Azzam Pasha's agreement to a proposal for a truce in Jerusalem, the Truce Commission had more or less simultaneously obtained a favourable response from the Jewish Agency to a different proposal. If true, this justifies the fear you have expressed that the wires might become crossed. In view of the present urgency, however, it is obviously difficult to avoid this altogether.

2. Parodi asked us to convey to you his hope that it would be possible to co-ordinate these apparently separate proposals and to obtain the concurrence of both parties as urgently as possible. He also asked us to appeal to you to do anything that might be in your power to augment the prestige of the United Nations Truce Commission.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem most immediate.

[Copies sent to Secretary of State for the Colonies and copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for retransmission to Jerusalem]

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FO 371 68550					
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11 MAY 1948

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E

E 6034

47

1948

PALESTINE

11 MAY 1948

Registry
Number E6034/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

United Kingdom
No. Delegation
NEW YORK

Dated 1452

Received
in Registry 10th May
11th "Appointment of Municipal Commissioner for Jerusalem.

Refers Foreign Office telegram No, 1977 dated 10th May (5955/4/31) Sir Hugh Dow's name was suggested but he was unacceptable to the Jewish Agency. Secretary General has been informed of Clarke's refusal and proposes to consult Arabs and Jews on 11th May regarding possibility of Evans or Pickett who are both American quakers.

Last Paper.

6033

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

d. Palestine sheet
May.

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

25/11
10/11/48

10/11/48

Next Paper.

6035

(Minutes.)

Sir H. Dow has been informed

D. Balfour
11/11

If neither of the two Americans
are acceptable we may have to
put forward another Br. candidate.

SAB 3
12.11

See within:
Tel. to Palestine 1898 of May 8.

This whole question was with the appointment
on May 14th of the American quakers, Mr Evans.
See at - E 6248/4/31

DB
12/11

32003 F.O.P.

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E 6034

Cypher/... WORLD ORGANISATION OF DIABITUON

FROM NEW YORK... MAY 1948

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No.1452 D. 8.19 p.m. 10th May, 1948
10th May, 1948 W. 1.40 a.m. 11th May, 1948

Repeated to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

NOT IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.1452
May 10th, repeated for information to Jerusalem
and saving to Washington.

Your telegram No.1977.

Appointment of Municipal Commissioner Jerusalem.

Sir Hugh Dow's name was suggested yesterday
but he was unacceptable (repeat unacceptable) to
the Jewish Agency.

2. Secretary-General has been informed of
Clark's refusal and promises to consult Arabs
and Jews on 11th May regarding possibility of
Evans or Pickett who are both American Quakers.

Foreign Office please repeat Most Immediate
to Jerusalem as my telegram No.591.

[Copy sent to Colonial Office for repetition
to Jerusalem].

k k k



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OUTWARD TELEGRAM.

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

41 49
LW

E 6034 / 4/31

70872/104/25/40

Cyprus (C.P.F.)

6034. 4 31

12 MAY 1948

TO PALESTINE (General Sir A. Cunningham)

Sent 8th May, 1948. 15.00 hrs.

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 1898 Top Secret and Personal.

Your telegram No. 1288.

Chairman of Municipal Commission.

Great disappointment was expressed by delegations at Lake Success at news that no suitable candidate for this post was available in Palestine. Suggestion was even made that this was a further instance of British non-cooperation. General impression was that British subject would be acceptable, and in view of fact that Municipal Commission will be only taken in Palestine after 15th May of work of United Nations on Palestine problem it has been decided, in spite of technical ineligibility of post, to ask Sir Hugh Dow if he would undertake this duty. He has accepted and his offer of his services is being forwarded to New York for discussion with Arabs and Jews on acceptability. EXCEL, New York, are being asked to telegraph outcome to you.

Please therefore urge all propositions for enactment of necessary legislation and for local consultations with Arabs and Jews on acceptability of Sir Hugh Dow if conclusive agreement is not forthcoming at Lake Success.

Distribution List:-

R. 245	Mr. Gordon
Secretary of State	Mr. Gurnea
Sir E. Lloyd	Mr. Hutchinson
P.I. to Min. of State	Mr. Higgs
Mr. Hoare-William	Mr. Galloway
Sir S. Cairns	Mr. Sargent
Sir G. Jeffries	
Mr. Halding	
No. 10 Downing Street	Mr. J. H. Dumbrey
Foreign Office	Mr. G. H. Henderson
Ministry of Defence	Mr. H. T. Ward
Cabinet Offices	Mr. R. H. French
War Office	Mr. J. C. S. Dowd
Air Ministry	Mr. J. B. Gane, O.B.E.
Admiralty	Mr. J. V. Battersby
War Office	Col. G. C. Cole, O.B.E.
	C.I.C.S.
Foreign Office	Mr. E. L. B. Burrows
War Office (M.O. 4.)	Col. H. H. Charteris
Cabinet Offices	Mr. S. H. V. Lake
Ministry of Defence	Lt. Col. Waterfield

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E 6035

SO

1948

PALESTINE

11 MAY 1948

Registry Number E6035/4/31,

TELEGRAM FROM
United Kingdom
Delegation
No. NEW YORK
Dated 14/54Received 10th May
in Registry 11th "His Majesty's Government's Interests in Palestine.

Refers New York telegram No, 1433 dated 8th May (E5954/4/31) New York Times contains substantially correct account of the secret letter to the Palestine Commission regarding the safeguarding of H.M.G's interests in Palestine after the termination of the Mandate, P(NY)87 dated 27th April (E5492/4/31)½

Last Paper.

6054

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8 Palestine Commission
Dist
May.2 copies telegram - O.V.
- Russell Edmund Coy.
3 - Langhorne Coy
1 - Atkinson
Free offed. May 11.
of Palestine Commission
from Dist May 14.

(Action completed.)

(Index)

P.P. 20/1
10/5/48

Next Paper.

6076

(Minutes.)

See attached Brief tel. 154
from Co. to UK del. 12/5ER Dept. 12/5
News Dept.
12/5/48

JB May 13

1	2	3	4	5	6
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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

References:-

FO 371 | 68550

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E 6035 S

11 MAY 1948

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Cypher/OTP.

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 1454.

D. 9.40 p.m. 10th May, 1948.
R. 3.00 a.m. 11th May, 1948.

10th May, 1948.

Repeated to Washington.

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

GIANT.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 1454 of 10th May,
repeated for information to Washington.

My telegram 1433 paragraph 5 (2).

Palestine. *c 591476*

To-day's New York Times contains substantially accurate account (ostensibly from Lake Success) of the secret letter to the Palestine Commission regarding the safeguarding of His Majesty's Government's interests in Palestine after the termination of the Mandate, P(N.Y.) 87 of the 27th April.

2. Bunche has assured Fletcher-Cooke that there are only 6 copies of this document at Lake Success - one for each of the members of the Commission and Bunche's own copy. Bunche has given an assurance that so far as he is aware no (repeat no) leakage took place at Lake Success.

3. This document of course received usual P/N.Y. distribution including Commonwealth (except India and Pakistan) and United States Delegations here.

4. During a visit to the State Department on May 9th Reedman of the United Nations Secretariat who had not (repeat not) seen the document at Lake Success was shown a copy by a member of the State Department believed to have been Doherty. Contents of this document were freely discussed and Reedman formed the impression that its secrecy was not (repeat not) fully appreciated in the State Department.

5. In view of this leakage I do not think we can avoid disclosing the document in sub-committee if asked to do so.

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68550					
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11 MAY 1948

6035/4/77

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Sent 12th May 1948

IMPORTANT
BRIEF NO. 154

INDEXED

Your telegram of 11th.

Reuter reports that since the seizure of the British Government's reserved United Nations assets of Palestine Government now held in London will not be released until His Majesty's Government answer Britain and other foreign economic interests in Palestine will be repeated. Assets held in London believed to total £50 million sterling. This communication made by His Majesty's Government to Palestine Commission in strictest confidence and British Delegation here disturbed over serious leak in United Nations machinery. Unquote.

In reply to press enquiries we have denied any connection between representations concerning economic interests of His Majesty's Government and assets of Palestine Government and pointed out that liquid assets of latter are in any case insufficient to meet current liabilities. Reference to £50 million is presumably to assets of Palestine Currency Board which are quite a different matter.

In reply to supplementary press questions about Currency Board assets we shall point out that these are not assets of Palestine Government, but are held by Currency Board as backing of Palestine currency and for redemption of currency notes as required (subject to provision of British exchange control). Since it is not practicable to substitute new currency or currencies immediately the Currency Board are continuing to operate for the time being. United Nations Commission have agreed to appoint an observer to attend meetings of Palestine Currency Board.

Copies sent to:-

- Foreign Office - Mr. J.G.S. Beith
- " " (News Dept.) - Mr. Matthews.
- Treasury - Mr. W. Russell Edmunds.
- " - Mr. W. Young.
- " - Mr. E.R. Apperley.

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FO 371 68550

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687

E

E 6038

53

PALESTINE

11 MAY 1948

Registry Number E6038/4/31

Palestine Truce.

TELEGRAM FROM

Refers Foreign Office telegram No ,308 to Jeddah. (E6014/4/31) As neither Azzam or Transjordan authorities were in possession of latest draft truce terms Sir, A. Kirkbride gave them text in English. Gives report on their reactions.

No. Sir, Alec Kirkbride AMMAN

Dated 311

Received in Registry 10th May 11th "

Last Paper.

6037

(Minutes.)

D. Balfour
11/4

per Balfour memo 12

References.

Tel. hand in reply to para. 4

Balfour
12.5

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8. Palestine list

May 12.

Tel. Amman 370
Rpt. New York 2004
Cairo 688
Baghdad 480
Beirut 375
Damascus 301
Jeddah 333
B.M.S.D. 412
May 11.

8. As above. May 15.

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

[Signatures]

Next Paper.

6039

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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E 8038

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Cypher/OTP

DIPLOMATIC SECRET DISTRIBUTION

FROM AMMAN TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir A. Kirkbride D.2. 0 p.m. 10th May, 1948.
No.311 R.3.20 p.m. 10th May, 1948.
10th May, 1948.

Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation New York
Bagdad
Beirut
Cairo
Damascus
Jedda
B.M.E.O.
Jerusalem

MOST IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.311 of May 10th repeated for information to United Kingdom Delegation New York, Bagdad, Beirut, Cairo, Damascus, Jedda, B.M.E.O. and Jerusalem.

Palestine truce.

Your telegram No.308 to Jedda.

As neither Azzam or Transjordan authorities were in possession of latest draft truce terms I gave them text in English which I had received from you.

2. After he had studied text, Azzam came to see me and in our discussion seemed inclined in favour of acceptance. He had two doubts. First was about immigration to which he thought reference dangerously vague. Second was about practical difficulty of giving effect to some of the provisions in the absence of a neutral executive force at the disposal of the Truce Commission. He fully appreciated the advantage to the Arabs of accepting when the Jews refused but he feared that if the Jews accepted too the physical difficulties on the Arab side of carrying out some of the provisions might enable the Jews to accuse the Arabs of being truce-breakers. He has now, proceeded to Damascus where a meeting of the Political Committee of the Arab League will be convened to discuss the proposals.

3. This morning King Abdullah and the Prime Minister of Trans-Jordan asked me to discuss draft which they had considered overnight. They asked me to thank you for your advice and to tell you that it was received in the spirit which might be expected from the most moderate of the Arab States. To me they said they were impressed by practical difficulties of giving effect to some of the obligations which the agreement would impose on the Arabs.

4. Both the King and the Prime Minister are anxious for a peaceful solution in Palestine specially in view of pressure which is being brought to bear on them

/by other Arab States

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Amman telegram No.311 to Foreign Office

- 2 -

by other Arab States on the subject of the Arab Legion. There is, I feel sure, no grounds for fear expressed by the Lebanese Prime Minister that the King would do anything to prevent acceptance of truce by the Arab Legion.

5. It was clear, however, that both were anxious to try and retain freedom of action vis à vis the other Arab States by exploiting the fact that Trans-Jordan is not a member of United Nations. The Prime Minister speaking on this subject after we had left the King said that if the Arab League refused the truce he did not want to be implicated inevitably in a war with the Jews and that if the Arab League accepted the truce he did not wish the Arab Legion to be automatically debarred from being used for security purposes in Arab areas of Palestine. (He had thought of the second point independently and I had not mentioned to him the possibility of the eventuality in paragraph 4 of your telegram No.333). Trans-Jordan delegate to the meeting in Damascus may therefore take up the attitude that formal decision of the League on this subject whatever it may be must be taken only by members who are also members of United Nations. In the event Trans-Jordan will no doubt continue to act in accordance with our wishes.

Foreign Office please pass to United Kingdom Delegation and Jeddah as my telegrams Nos.38 and 36 respectively.

[Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation New York and Jeddah].

[Copies sent to Secretary of State for the Colonies].

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

B B B

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Registry
No. E 6038/431

~~Top-Secret~~
Secret
Confidential
Restricted
Open

BABB

OUT FILE
CYPHER ⁵⁶

Immediate
~~Secret~~

Despatched

12.45 P.M.

Draft.

AMMAN

Telegram.

No. 370

(Date) May 11

Repeat to:—

U.K. Del. New York ²⁰⁰⁴
Cairo 688
Bagdad 480
Beirut 3375
Damascus 301
Jedda 333
B.M.E.C. 452

[Handwritten signature]

RECEIVED IN C.S.

En-Clair: 12 MAY 1948

Code=

Cypher.

Distribution:—

Dip. Secret

It would not fall to us to interpret truce terms but

Copies to:—

Addressed to Amman telno. 370 of May 11 repeated for information to U.K. Del. New York. Cairo, Bagdad, Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, B.M.E.C.

Your telegram No. 311 of May 10 : Palestine truce.

I appreciate King Abdullah's desire not to be involved in war with the Jews as a result of Arab League decision to this effect. I also ~~fully~~ understand his wish that the Arab Legion should be able to take part in police action in Palestine even in the event of a truce, but I cannot believe that it is desirable for him to stand out against a truce for this reason or to use the pretext of non-membership of the United Nations (much as I sympathise with his natural inclination to turn to his own advantage repeated U.N. refusals to admit him). I would hope that if a truce were concluded, means might nevertheless be found to invite him to provide part of his forces for the maintenance of security in Arab areas or to legalise such action if it had taken place prior to the conclusion of a truce. Article 1 of the Truce ~~terms~~ seems to provide opportunity for the Truce Commission to authorise the performance of police functions, and Article 7 also seems to allow the Commission to sanction any ~~agreement~~ ^{agreement} which might have been made between Jewish and Arab authorities for the maintenance of public order. There would seem to be nothing necessarily to prevent the inclusion

in/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(9864) W.L.1090/147 100,000 6/47 A.A.E.W.Ltd. Cp. 685

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FO 371					
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in some such arrangement of an agreement between the Arabs and Jews for functioning of the Arab Legion on police duties inside Palestine. Article 2 would presumably not be taken to stand in the way of such action if this was agreed by both Arabs and Jews and by the Truce Commission.

if you think it would serve a useful purpose
2. You should *put these points to King*
Abdullah and tell him that while I fully appreciate
his position and the constructive and peaceable nature of his intentions, I still feel that there would be great political and tactical advantage for the Arabs in expressing their acceptance of the truce terms.

MSL

11.5

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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COPY FILE

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6038/4/34

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Cypher/OTP.

DIPLOMATIC SECRET DISTRIBUTION.

Secret.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO AMMAN.

No. 370.

11th May, 1948.

D. 12.45 a.m. 12th May, 1948.

Repeated to New York (U.K. Delegation) No. 2004
Cairo No. 688
Bagdad No. 480
Beirut No. 375
Damascus No. 301.
Jedda No. 535.
B.M.E.O. Cairo No. 452.

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

Addressed to Amman telegram No. 370 of 11th May,

repeated for information to United Kingdom Delegation
New York, Cairo, Bagdad, Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, B.M.E.O.

Your telegram No. 311 [of May 10th: Palestine truce].

I appreciate King Abdullah's desire not to be involved in war with the Jews as a result of Arab League decision to this effect. I also understand his wish that the Arab Legion should be able to take part in police action in Palestine even in the event of a truce, but I cannot believe that it is desirable for him to stand out against a truce for this reason or to use the pretext of non-membership of the United Nations (much as I sympathise with his natural inclination to turn to his own advantage repeated United Nations refusals to admit him). I would hope that if a truce were concluded, means might nevertheless be found to invite him to provide part of his forces for the maintenance of security in Arab areas or to legalise such action if it had taken place prior to the conclusion of a truce. It would not fall to us to interpret truce terms but Article 1 seems to provide opportunity for the Truce Commission to authorise the performance of police functions, and Article 7 also seems to allow the Commission to sanction any agreement which might have been made between Jewish and Arab authorities for the maintenance of public order. There would seem to be nothing necessarily to prevent the inclusion in some such arrangement of an agreement between the Arabs and Jews for functioning of the Arab Legion on police duties inside Palestine. Article 2 would presumably not be taken to stand in the way of such action if this was agreed by both Arabs and Jews and by the Truce Commission.

2. You should if you think it would serve a useful purpose put some or all of these points to King Abdullah and tell him that while I fully appreciate his position and the constructive and peaceable nature of his intentions, I still feel that there would be great political and tactical advantage for the Arabs in expressing their acceptance of the truce terms.

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E

E 6039

58

PALESTINE

1948

11 MAY 1948

Registry Number | E6039/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM
Sir. Alec
Kirkbride
No. AMMAN
312.

Dated

Received 10th May
in Registry 11th "Jerusalem, International Red Cross Proposal.

Transmits text of telegram received from Jerusalem stating that the High Commissioner has agreed to publication by International Red Cross of their proposals for placing Jerusalem under Red Cross Flag, and asking that Azzam be informed of this.

Last Paper.

6039

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of)

S. P. Lane sent
May 12
1. (Copies to E 6039)

(Action completed.)

See
1st 12/4

(Index.)

[Handwritten initials]

Next Paper.

6040

(Minutes.)

P.P. Palestine 1313 9/1

Message will have reached Azzam through US Ambassador, in
due time.

etc.

W.P.
11/4

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E 6039

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11 MAY 1948

Cypher /OTP

DIPLOMATIC SECRET DISTRIBUTION

FROM AMMAN TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir A. Kirkbride
No. 312
10th May, 1948

D. 11.30 a.m. 10th May, 1948
R. 2.6 p.m. 10th May, 1948

SECRET

Addressed to Damascus telegram No. 48 of 10th May, repeated for information to Foreign Office and British Middle East Office Cairo.

I have received following telegram from [grp undec ^{High Commission} ? Palestine].

[Begins].

I am not sure whether Azzam is now in Cairo or Amman but should be grateful if he might be informed that I have agreed to publication by International Red Cross of their proposals for placing Jerusalem under Red Cross flag. These are being published with expression of this Government's support for them as being fully compatible with efforts I have made and am continuing to make for peace in Jerusalem. It is desirable that it should be explained to Azzam that Red Cross scheme does not cut across what he and I agreed at Jericho on which I am working in consultation with Truce Commission.

[Ends].

Azzam left here for Damascus before its arrival.

[Copies sent to Secretary of State for the Colonies].

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

PPP



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Reference: **FO 371 68550**

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INWARD TELEGRAM

114
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TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher(O.T.P)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham).

D. 9th May, 1948
R. 9th " " 20.50 hrs.

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 1313 Secret.

Addressed to Memin Cairo No. 93.
Repeated to Amman No. 1468. (S. of S. please pass
to Amman most immediate).
" " S. of S.

I am not sure whether Azzam is now in Cairo or Amman, but should be grateful if he might be informed that I have agreed to publication by International Red Cross of their proposals for placing Jerusalem under Red Cross flag. These are being published with expression of this Government's support for them as being fully compatible with efforts I have made, and am continuing to make for peace in Jerusalem. It is desirable that it should be explained to Azzam that Red Cross scheme does not cut across what he and I agreed at Jericho, on which I am working in consultation with Truce Commission.

(Copies sent to Foreign Office for transmission to Amman and to Duty Officer, Foreign Office).

Advance copies sent to:-

No. 10 Downing Street	- Mr. J.L. Pumphrey.
Foreign Office	- Mr. J.P.E. Hanniker.
Ministry of Defence	- Mr. R.P. Wood.
Cabinet Offices	- Mr. R.P. Fraser.
War Office	- Mr. A.C.W. Drew.
Air Ministry	- Mr. J.S. Orme, O.B.E.
Admiralty	- Mr. J.V. Batterby.
War Office (C.I.G.S.)	- Col. G.S. Cole, O.B.E.

/Copies sent to:-

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" "	Brig. Cornwall-Jones.
" "	Lt. Col. Sherman.
" "	Sir N. Brook.
Ministry of Defence	Private Secretary.
" "	Sir H. Carter.
" "	Gen. Sir L. Hollis.
" "	Major Gabbett.
Treasury	Mr. A.J. Newling.
" "	Mr. D.F.C. Blunt.
Admiralty	Mr. W. Russell-Edmunds.
" "	Mr. P.N.N. Synnott.
" "	Capt. D.H. Hall-Thompson.
" "	Mr. G.C.B. Dodds.
War Office	Private Secretary.
" "	First Sea Lord.
" "	Private Secretary.
" "	Brig. J.R.C. Hamilton.
" "	Brig. L.L. Wansbrough-Jones.
" " (M.O.A.)	Major C. de B. de Lisle.
" "	Col. M.M. Charteris.
Ministry of Transport	C.I.G.S.
" "	Mr. B.F. Picknett.
Air Ministry	Mr. F.C. Rennis.
" "	Private Secretary.
" "	C.A.S.
Foreign Office	Air Commodore Brook.
" "	Grp. Capt. V.H.B. Roth.
" "	Mr. B.A.B. Burrows.
" "	Mr. R. Beeley.
" "	Mr. J.G.S. Beith.
" " (Research Dept.)	Private Secretary.
M.I.5.	Air Commodore K.C. Buss.
Foreign Office	Mr. J.C. Robertson.
" "	P.S. to Sir Orme Sargent.
Lord President	Private Secretary.
Commonwealth Relations Office	Private Secretary.

RECEIVED IN C.B.
10 MAY 1948
SENT TO DEP.

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E

E 6040

11 MAY 1948

PALESTINE

Registry
Number E6040/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr. Trott
No. JEDDA
193Dated 10th May
Received in Registry 11th "Truce Proposals

Refers Jedda telegram No 192 dated 9th May (E6019/4/31)
Gives text of reply delivered by Ministry of Foreign
Affairs, from the King adding that as Prime Ministers
of Syria and Lebanon left Riyadh for Bagdad and Damascu
on May 9th second message cannot have reached them.

Last Paper.

6029

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8. P. L. H. H. H.
May 12
(L. P. H. H. H.)

(Action
completed.)col
25/-

(Index.)

Next Paper.

6048

(Minutes.)

as per
13 May 12

2. B. P. H.
11/1

~~This is an unhelpful reply.~~

The text of Mr. Sand's reply
is now attached. It is unhelpful
and unrealistic. It would be easy
to reply but I doubt if it is
worth while.

J. B. Burrows

18.5

14
May 14

2. B. P. H.

with night

15.5

J. P. P. O. L. Trott. Embassy. Jedda 1. M. Burrows 10/5
JB May 24

32008 F.O.P.

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E 6040

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Cypher/OTP

DIPLOMATIC (SECRET) DISTRIBUTION

FROM JEDDA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Trott. D. 2.45.p.m. May 10th, 1948.
No. 193.
May 10th, 1948. R. 3.25.p.m. May 10th, 1948.

Repeated to Amman.
Beirut.
Bagdad.
Cairo.
Damascus.
B.M.E.O. Cairo.
U.K. Delegation New York.
Washington.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

SECRET

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 193 of May 10th, repeated for information to Amman, Beirut, Bagdad, Cairo, Damascus, B.M.E.O. Cairo, U.K. Delegation New York and Washington.

My telegrams Nos. 180 and 192 - Palestine.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs have just delivered the following reply from the King adding that as the Prime Ministers of Syria, and Lebanon left Riyadh for Bagdad and Damascus early on May 9th second message from you cannot have reached them. Summary of message begins:

I much appreciate Mr. Bevin's message and consider that only the British Government can deal with the very grave situation.

Mr. Bevin's opinions are wise. But the situation has gone so far that there are only two courses now possible:

1) Either His Majesty's Government accept responsibility and bring Arabs and Jews together

2) or matters must take their course with consequences which cannot be foreseen.

British Government have successfully undertaken in the past even greater matters than that: for instance leaving India. Discussions with Arabs of Palestine are useless. They are merely awaiting destruction. British Government can settle the matter on a just basis. Otherwise, if they

/wish to leave the

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Jedda telegram to Foreign Office No. 193.

-2-

wish to leave the matter to develop with truce proposals or the like, things will go from bad to worse.

Full text is being sent by bag to Burrows.

Foreign Office please pass to United Kingdom Delegation and Washington as my telegrams Nos. 7 and 26 respectively.

[Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation New York and Washington.]

[Advance copies sent to Secretary of State for the Colonies.]

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat.]

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6247 4 31

BRITISH EMBASSY, *W*
JEDDA.

10th May, 1948

Dear Burrows,

The message from the King, ~~in~~ a summary of which I have sent off this morning, has come in just as the Lag is closing. As you know we only have about three quarters of a typist and no stenographer, and anyhow all the staff have been so busy decyphering telegrams etc. for the past few days that all I can do is to type it myself and send it to you. So I enclose it herewith. It bears signs of having been very hastily sent off. The King does not say that he has sent any message to Faisal but it is always possible that he has. The Ministry here say that messages between the two go direct without being communicated to the Jeddah Ministry at all.

Please forgive frantic haste

Yours ever

AC. Smith
B.A.E. Burrows, Esq.,
etc etc etc
The Foreign Office.

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BRITISH LEGATION,
JEDDA,
SAUDI ARABIA.

10th May, 1948

Translation of text of message received from His Majesty King Ibn Saud: communicated by the Saudi Ministry for Foreign Affairs late on the 9th May.

I thank Mr. Bevin for his message and for letting me know his opinion, and for taking the trouble to communicate with me on the subject of Palestine. I should like to say, in view of our mutual friendship, in the name of humanity, and in my feeling of future danger, that no one can express an opinion in such matters and undertake such tasks except one who is well versed in politics. And I do not think that anyone can do what must be done in this question, whether for his own interest or for that of his friend, unless it be ~~with~~ the British Government.

The opinions expressed by Mr. Bevin are wise and worthy of study. But, in the words of the proverb, "Verily he who is afraid is not comforted when someone says 'There is no danger'".

The situation in Palestine has changed in all kinds of ways and has gone beyond all bounds. In fact it has become well-nigh insoluble. Only two courses are now open in dealing with the matter:-

(a) Either the British Government themselves will do what is necessary, accepting the responsibility, and will find a way of bringing the Arabs and Jews together and of securing peace by way of equity and justice, even though that may cause them even more trouble than in the past:

(b) or, the rein must just be dropped and matters must be allowed to take their course: in which case no one can say what will happen.

I am certain that if the British Government do not accept that responsibility then they will incur grave danger and the result will be deplorable, both for them and for the Arabs. The British Government have undertaken responsibilities greater than this previously, sometimes even things which no one thought she could do, e.g. leaving India, etc. But as for the Jews, they only care about their own desires: they do not mind if everyone else suffers: they think it is in their best interests to spoil the relations between the Arabs and the English. No doubt the British Government are perfectly well aware of what the Jews want and what they are

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are aiming at.

As the British Government know, the matter has reached a great crisis. Discussing with the Arabs (sc. in Palestine?) is useless, because they are wailing in their houses while bullets and murderous weapons are all round them. The Jews are becoming better equipped and are increasing in strength day by day. Their object is to destroy the Arabs: that being so, who can say to the Arabs "Accept this or that policy and it will get you what you want."

If the British Government wish to accept the responsibility of settling the matter on a basis of justice, they can do it: or if they wish to leave the matter to work itself out with these discussions, such as a truce on the conditions which have been proposed, or anything else, the matter will go from bad to worse, and no one can prophesy the dangers which will follow. That is my opinion, expressed confidentially and with all the frankness that I am accustomed to use with the British Government.

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087

E

E 6043/66

1948

11 MAY 1948

PALESTINE

Registry Number } E 6043/4/31

FROM United Kingdom

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

Delegation of New York
7 March
11 May

Appointment of Special Municipal Commissioners for Jerusalem

Refers to New York 67 1399 (E 5890/4/31) of May 6. Encloses letter from Mr. Trygve Lie, Secretary General of United Nations to Secretary of State of May 6 transmitting resolutions adopted by General Assembly on May 6 regarding appointment of Special Municipal Commissioners for Jerusalem.

Last Paper

6040

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Mr. Trygve Lie
Secretary, United
Nations for 5/3

May 28.
9) UK Del. New York
No. 151. May 29
(with 8ft above)

(Action completed)

cat
31

(Index)

Next Paper

6049

(Minutes.)

Similar communications from the Secretary-General of U.N.O. need not always be acknowledged, since UK Delegation, who transmit them, will have acknowledged. But this is urged by Mr. Trygve Lie himself; moreover he asks the S.G.'s to inform him of any steps which U.M.C. may take. This was, in fact, done throughout, with UK Del² acting as intermediary. But it would be well to send a formal reply now, to meet up with. The misunderstanding which occurred on 7th May, when the U.N. Secretariat mislaid a message from the High Commission for one from Mr. Bevin and published it as such, had better not be mentioned. There has already been sufficient correspondence about it.

I submit a draft reply.

B. Balguy
24/5

BAB
23.5

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4-47-W



EMPIRE STATE BLDG.
61ST FLOOR
NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

MAY 7 RECD

With the compliments of the

United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations

copy retained in Delegation

1890/4 Ref 7/5/48

Our Tel 1399 6th May also refers



E 6043

11 MAY 1948

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UNITED NATIONS  NATIONS UNIES

LAKE SUCCESS, NEW YORK • FIELDSTONE 7-1100

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

REFERENCE 48/1713/DB

6 May 1948

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the General Assembly at its one hundred and thirty-fourth plenary meeting held on 6 May 1948 adopted a resolution which, inter alia, recommends :

"THAT the Mandatory Power appoint under Palestine legislation before 15 May 1948 a neutral acceptable to both Arabs and Jews as Special Municipal Commissioner, who shall, with the cooperation of the community committees already existing in Jerusalem, carry out the functions hitherto performed by the Municipal Commission."

This resolution was adopted by the General Assembly pursuant to its consideration of the report of the Trusteeship Council on the protection of the City of Jerusalem and its inhabitants, in which the Trusteeship Council reported that

The Right Honourable Ernest Bevin, M.P.,
The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
Foreign Office,
Downing Street,
London, S.W. 1,
England.

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the Mandatory Power had informed the Council of its willingness to appoint such Special Municipal Commissioner.

I shall be grateful if you will inform me of any steps which His Majesty's Government may take in connection with the above recommendation.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



Trygve Lie
Secretary-General

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Registry
No. E 6043/4/31

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft. Letter to

M^r Trygve Lie
Secretary-General,

United Nations.
Lake Success
New York.

from

S of S

Cop. V. Del
N. York

PS [Signature]

D. Beilman
22/4

(39551) W. 14696/147 75000 6/47 A. & E. W. L. H. Gp. 485

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

12. +1c. 28 May

Dear Mr Lie,

Sir, X

I have received through the United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations your letter of May 6th (ref: 48/1713/DB) by which you informed me of the ~~resolution~~ resolution adopted by the general assembly on that date, recommending, *inter alia*, ~~that~~ the appointment by the Mandatory Power of a Special Municipal Commissioner for Jerusalem, and requested me to inform you of any steps which His Majesty's Government might take in connection with that recommendation.

As you are aware, every effort was made in concert with the High Commissioner for Palestine and the U.K. Delegation to the United Nations to find a suitable candidate, who would be ~~both~~ willing to assume this function and acceptable to both Jews and Arabs. Unfortunately M^r Clarke, to whom the post was offered ^{there} in response to your request received through the U.K. Delegation on May 8th, was unwilling to accept it; while Sir Hugh Dow, whose name was put forward ^{on May 9th} by the Delegation, acting on my instructions, was found unacceptable to the Jewish Agency. I am glad, however,

that

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that you ~~was able~~ ^{succeeded} a few days later to in
securing ~~the~~ agreement of all concerned to
the appointment of Mr Harold Evans,
and that the High Commissioner was
able, before he left Palestine, to appoint
him in virtue of the ~~special~~ regulation
specially issued in Jerusalem for that
purpose.

Yours sincerely,
I am, Sir,

with highest respect

BABB
23.5

BABB
27.5

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Foreign Office, S.W.1.

23th May, 1948.

No. E 6043/4/31

Dear Mr. Lie,

I have received through the United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations your letter of 6th May (reference 48/1713/DB) by which you informed me of the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on that date, recommending, inter alia, the appointment by the Mandatory Power of a Special Municipal Commissioner for Jerusalem, and requested me to inform you of any steps which His Majesty's Government might take in connexion with that recommendation.

As you are aware, every effort was made in concert with the High Commissioner for Palestine and the United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations to find a suitable candidate, who would be willing to assume this function and acceptable to both Jews and Arabs. Unfortunately Mr. Clarke, to whom the post was offered here in response to your request received through the United Kingdom Delegation on 8th May, was unwilling to accept it; while Sir Hugh Dow, whose name was put forward on 9th May by the Delegation acting on my instructions, was found unacceptable to the Jewish Agency. I am glad, however, that you succeeded a few days later in securing agreement of all concerned to the appointment of Mr. Harold Evans, and that the High Commission was able, before he left Palestine, to appoint him in virtue of the regulation specially issued in Jerusalem for that purpose.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Ernest Bevin

Mr. Trygve Lie,
United Nations,
Lake Success,
New York.

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E 6071

1948

PALESTINE

11 MAY 1948

Registry
Number E6071/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr. Broadmead
No. DAMASCUS
264Dated 10th May
Received in Registry 11th "Capture of Safad by Jews.

Azzam Pasha asked to let it be known that capture of Safad by Jews which he said had been effected night 9th May had come as greatest blow to Arabs. It was one further ruinous blow to partition. He said that when he saw the High Commissioner at Jericho last Friday latter had told him that there was nothing to worry about.

Last Paper.

6049

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Palatine list
May
[Signature]

(Action completed.)

cah
27/5

Index.

[Signature]
1/7/48

Next Paper.

6072

^(Ministry)
Held up for ~~amplification~~ ^{information} from W.O.

Sir Orme Sargent has asked on ^a copy of Damascus telegram No. 265 when Safad fell.

This telegram suggests that Safad fell on May 9th, but the War Office inform me that according to their reports it only fell about five days ago. Safad is an important strategical point in the north-east of Palestine, as it covers the frontier between Lake Hula and Lake Tiberias. This area is fairly thickly populated by Jews and it is evident that the Jews intend to hold it. The area lies in the Jewish sector of northern Palestine under the Partition Plan.

J. J. Davis
(BEITH)

21st May, 1948.

[Signature]

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with 22.5

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FROM DAMASCUS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Broadmead D. 3. 14 p.m. 10th May, 1948.
No. 264
10th May, 1948. R. 6. 26 p.m. 10th May, 1948.

Repeated to Cairo Amman
Beirut Bagdad
Jedda Jerusalem

E 6071

IMPORTANT

11 MAY 1948

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 264 of 10th
May repeated to Cairo, Beirut, Jedda, Amman, Bagdad,
Jerusalem.

Safad.

Azzam Pasha asked me this afternoon to let you know
that capture of Safad by Jews which he said had been
effected last night had come as greatest blow to Arabs.
It was one further step of ruinous damage to partition.
He referred to previous communications about this place
made here last week and also said when he saw High
Commissioner at Jericho last Friday latter had told him
there was nothing to worry about.

2. I fear that the fate of Safad is going to rankle
although I hope in a lesser degree than that of Haifa.

[Advance copies sent to Secretary of State for
Colonies.]

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E 6072

PALESTINE

11 MAY 1948

Registry Number E6072/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM
United Kingdom
Delegation
No. NEW YORK
Dated 1455Received 10th May
in Registry 11th "Sub-Committee of First Committee.

Refers New York telegram No, 1433 (E5954/4/31) Rapporteur's working paper was considered at closed session. Paper took the form of a draft resolution proposing the setting up of a United Nations temporary central Commission in Palestine under Article 14 of the charter. Gives list of main points.

Last Paper.

6071

References.

(Minutes.)

The idea of a UN Commission in Palestine is fairly good generally, though proposed under various forms.

Balfour
11/1

BARB
12.5

(Print.)

(How disposed of)

8 Palestine Sub-
May 17
(Proposed E 6072)

(Action completed.)

Index.

Y. K. K.
11/1/48

Next Paper.

6075

32-03 F.O.P.

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WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 1455

D. 9.51 p.m. May 10th, 1948.

May 10th, 1948.

R. 4.10 a.m. May 11th, 1948.

Repeated to Washington Saving.

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

GIANT

E 8070

11 MAY 1948

Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 1455 May 10th
repeated for information to Washington Saving.

Palestine sub-committee of First Committee.

My telegram No. 1433. 5/10/48

Rapporteur's working paper was considered at to-day's closed session. Paper took the form of a draft resolution proposing the setting up of a United Nations temporary central commission in Palestine under Article 14 of the Charter. Main points are as follows:

- (1) Arabs and Jews to agree on a truce.
- (2) Commission to consist of members of Truce Commission together with Municipal Commissioner of Jerusalem, Lisicky and possibly others.
- (3) Commission to act as custodians of the assets of the Government of Palestine subject to agreement of Arabs and Jews.
- (4) Commission to continue and maintain central services subject to agreement with Arabs and Jews.
- (5) Commission to represent Palestine in international matters.
- (6) General Assembly to consider "peaceful adjustment of the situation in Palestine" at the 3rd regular session in September.

2. U.S.S.R. and Poland raised procedural objections to discussion of paper contending that as it was in the form of a draft resolution it must be submitted by a particular delegation. Chairman ruled that it should be discussed as a "working paper".

3. During the discussion the following views were expressed:

/(1) Guatemala. On

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From New York Delegation to Foreign Office
No. 1455

(1) Guatemala. On termination of Mandate Palestine will become one or two independent States. United Nations will have no (repeat no) legal right to impose any Government on Palestine and should confine itself to providing a Co-ordinating Commission to mediate between the two new States and assist them to maintain common services. The only legal basis for any United Nations Government would be a trusteeship arrangement but this was now impossible

(I) Because of the shortness of time, and

(II) Because neither party would accept it.

(2) France. Proposed Commission should not (repeat not) attempt to administer central services but should provide experts to enable Arabs and Jews to do so.

(3) United States of America. Queried legal basis of proposed Commission and enquired if Article 14 was sufficient for this purpose.

(4) Cuba. Condemned resolution of November 29th 1947, as illegal and contended that trusteeship arrangement was the only legal possibility and then only if decided upon before the 15th May. Termination of Mandate on 15th May would make it impossible for trusteeship agreement to be drawn up after that date.

(5) China. Referred to recommendation in working paper that both parties agree to a truce but pointed out that if this was to be effective it would have to be a political truce which would prevent the declaration of independent States on the 16th May. Doubtful whether parties would accept this. Also pointed out that proposed commission would be responsible to General Assembly which he hoped would be in recess during critical period of three months after termination of Mandate. Suggested supervision by Security Council.

(6) Poland. Urged abandonment of Trusteeship and confining functions of Commission to mediation between Arab and Jewish States after 15th May.

4. Sub-Committee will meet again on 11th May.

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82 1948	Palestine EASTERN	E 605 / G 77
E 6075 / 4 / 31/C New York (U.K. Del) 1432. 8 - 5 - 48 11 - 5 - 48.	Palestine Truce	
Last Paper. E 6028	(Minutes) This is the Colonial Secretary's last message before leaving for the U.K. on May 2 nd	
References. E 5846 / 4 / 31 E 5942 / 4 / 5 E 5739 / 4 / 31 E 5952 / 4 / 31 E 5889 / 4 / 31 (Print.)	D. Balfour 12/17 BABB 12.5	
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E 6075

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11 MAY 1948

Cypher/OTP

P R I S E C

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 1432

D. 7.20 p.m. May 8th, 1948.

May 8th, 1948.

R. 1.30 a.m. May 9th, 1948.

Repeated to Washington.

IMMEDIATE

DEDIP

TOP SECRET

Addressed Foreign Office No. 1432 May 8th
repeated for information to Washington.

Following for Secretary of State from Colonial
Secretary.

I was most grateful to have your telegrams Nos. 1828
and 1845.

2. My statement to the First Committee last Monday
May 3rd, was generally well received in both the Committee
and the New York press as a helpful and constructive move
notwithstanding the fact that I had been careful to put
forward my ideas in a tentative and indefinite way. This
reception seems to me in itself to indicate the general
feeling of helplessness among delegations and their willing-
ness to grasp at any straw as May 15th approaches.

3. The United States Delegation quickly took up the
line offered (which is of course acceptable in so far as it
does not necessarily involve jettisoning the idea of
trusteeship) and after consulting us informally they put the
Cubans up to submitting to the First Committee a resolution
proposing reference to a sub-committee of the problem of
formulating a provisional régime for Palestine (our
telegram No. 1370).

4. Since then there have been private consultations
mostly unofficial between ourselves, the Canadian and United
States Delegations (both members of the sub-committee) with a
view to framing a draft resolution to establish interim
caretaker arrangements in Palestine on the lines I have
suggested. The sub-committee held two meetings this week
to discuss their procedure and yesterday afternoon I attended
a further meeting at which I developed my ideas and answered
questions (see my telegram No. 1424). It was evident that
in spite of the further explanations I had given in the
First Committee many delegations failed to appreciate the
empirical and gradually evolving nature of the interim
arrangements and had in mind and continued to think in terms
of a hard and fast scheme. In particular they seemed to
hanker after concrete plans designed to deal with the
substantial problems at issue, e.g. immigration, but I think
that at this meeting I succeeded in making it clear that my
aim was to leave aside such thorny problems at this stage

/and to offer a

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From New York Delegation to Foreign Office
No. 1432

-2-

and to offer a means of maintaining a minimum continuity in Palestine until the situation there clarified itself.

5. Canadians are maintaining the closest contact with us in connexion with their work on the sub-committee; they are fully conversant with our point of view and while they do not wish to take a prominent part in putting forward resolutions they are co-operating to the maximum in steering the sub-committee's deliberations in the right direction. General McNaughton has been especially helpful.

6. So far as I can judge at this stage there is a fair chance of a satisfactory proposal emerging into the First Committee and being carried, although of course there is still some uncertainty as to the line the American delegation will take. As regards the Dominions I have done my best to explain the ideas underlying my statement to the New Zealand, Australian and South African delegates but with what appears to be limited success in the case of the two former. Both Berendsen and Hood seem to be still under instructions from their Governments to back partition and Berendsen in particular is inclined to harp on enforcement of the November 29th resolution and seems to find it difficult to appreciate the realities of the situation.

7. The report of the Trusteeship Council notifying the cease-fire order in the Old City of Jerusalem and the efforts to maintain municipal services by appointing a chairman of the Municipal Commission was endorsed by the Plenary Assembly (our telegram No. 1398) but a feeling of disappointment was evident at the meagre results of the Council's efforts. Nevertheless the resolution represented the maximum of achievement consistent with the acquiescence of Jews and Arabs. The Assembly referred to the First Committee the question of how to strengthen law and order in Jerusalem, including the French proposal that a special United Nations delegate be sent out for this purpose (my telegram No. 1400).

8. To complete the picture here I should add that at the meeting on Thursday (reported separately to you in our telegram No. 1403) the United States delegation indicated that their secret truce negotiations are on the verge of final breakdown, the Arabs remaining intransigent on immigration and the Jews on the proclamation of their State. A possible basis of agreement on immigration was discussed at the meeting but as regards the Jewish State I am sure that it will prove completely impracticable to devise any formula acceptable to the Jews which (a) would be agreed to by the Arabs; (b) would maintain strict "neutrality" in relation to the partition plan of November 29th. The latter condition is essential both to the success of the interim régime upon which the sub-committee is now working and (which is perhaps more important) from the point of view of safeguarding the position so far as possible if the Security Council is confronted after May 15th with the question of a breach of the peace in Palestine.

/9. At this meeting

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From New York Delegation to Foreign Office
No. 1432

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9. At this meeting the United States delegation proposed that after the French chairman of the Security Council has made a further effort to narrow the differences between Jews and Arabs on the truce, fair and reasonable terms should be decided upon by the United States, French, Belgians and ourselves and presented to both parties for acceptance within three or four days. The result will then be reported to the Security Council. I am afraid that I have no optimism that this procedure offers any hope of agreement on a truce in the very short time remaining. From May 15th events in Palestine will probably take their own course and if an interim régime is set up by the Assembly its immediate functions will be strictly limited as foreshadowed in paragraph 7 of my telegram No. 1340. Such a régime is, however, in my view the only practical means by which the United Nations can save face and hope to keep any hold on the situation as it develops until circumstances permit a final solution in Palestine.

10. Finally there are signs of a number of problems emerging here which have the most serious implications for the United Kingdom in a wider international sphere. The first is the situation likely to arise after May 15th if the question of maintaining peace in Palestine is again raised before the Security Council, whether, as a result of the American proposal, the Security Council now places fair and reasonable truce terms before the two parties and takes whatever action may be appropriate and practical against either or both parties if they reject the terms, or as a result of any other approach.

11. The second is the difficulty in which we shall find ourselves in explaining our position in relation to Transjordan, the Arab Legion and our treaty arrangements with Abdullah if he moves into Palestine after May 15th (see paragraph 1 of my telegram No. 1340). The French delegate is particularly concerned about this question and the possible difficulties which any policy of conciliation decided on by the Security Council may involve. (I have told him that you are fully alive to these questions and that our delegation will be kept informed and will keep in close touch with him as chairman of the Security Council.

12. Thirdly informal conversations with the United States Delegation recently have indicated that the United States is becoming increasingly preoccupied with fear of Russian infiltration in the Middle East after May 15th, and with ideas of dispersing forces of the Western Powers in that area to seal off any hostilities in Palestine from Russian infiltration. I would not wish to lay too much stress on this since the conversations in question have been principally at a low level. There was, however, a strong indication of the same line of thought in Douglas' first approach to you about enforcing the trusteeship plan and I feel that preoccupation with these ideas may account for the United States continuing to think in terms of "enforcing" a truce or some other plan for Palestine. It is possible that as events take their course during the next week or so the United States may disentangle these purely strategic considerations from their thinking about

/the Palestine problem

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From New York Delegation to Foreign Office

-4-

No. 1432

the Palestine problem per se. As regards the latter it seems that they may wish to combine their [grp. undec. ?idea] of trusteeship for Palestine with the less ambitious proposals I have myself put forward for dealing with the situation between Arabs and Jews in Palestine itself. They attach importance to Trusteeship on the ground that it would give them the necessary legal cover for any measures necessary to safeguard Palestine from Russian infiltration and they might then raise with us the question of the provision of forces from the standpoint of Anglo-American strategic interests in the Middle East. These wider views are now coming more and more to the forefront in this problem which I have necessarily been handling hitherto primarily from the standpoint of the Mandate and its termination and I do not myself feel competent to enlarge upon them. I feel bound, however, to bring them to your notice as you will wish to ensure that they are foreseen and tackled by your department and by the delegation here.

13. In general I feel that my work here has now been largely completed. Those remaining in the delegation are fully able to steer matters further and having given the best lead we could in the circumstances it is perhaps desirable that we should retire rather more into the background from now on. I am therefore leaving to-day in the "Queen Mary".

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83	Palestine	E 6076 /G 82
E 6076 / 4 / 31/G New York (U.K. Del). 1440 10 - 5 - 48 11 - 5 - 48.	Palestine: Trusteeship Agreement.	
Last Paper. E 6075	(Minutes)	
References. E 6012 / 4 / 9 E 6013 / 4 / 9 E 6077 / 4 / 9.	Now see E 6077 / 4 / G J.B. 11/11	
(Print)		
(How disposed of.) 8) Palestine Distrn. 12 May.		
(Action completed.) gm 14/5	(Index.) W.P.	
Next Paper.		

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DIPLOMATIC (SECRET) DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 1440

D. 10.45 a.m. 10th May, 1948

10th May, 1948

R. 4.15 p.m. 10th May, 1948

Repeated to Washington,

MOST IMMEDIATE

TOP SECRET

Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 1440 10th May repeated for information to Washington.

My telegrams Nos. 1438 and 1439: Palestine.

During the informal meetings at which the American draft for a trusteeship agreement was discussed with the Canadians and ourselves an alternative draft was worked out of a resolution which would give effect to the Colonial Secretary's suggestions without involving trusteeship. This text which is mainly of Anglo-Canadian origin is contained in my immediately following telegram.

2. American representatives did not view this draft with enthusiasm. I should also warn you that the American, French and Belgian delegations have all expressed doubts as to whether their Governments would accept the responsibilities involved. On the other hand it would of course be possible to modify the membership of the proposed commission without otherwise altering the draft.

[Copies sent to Secretary of State for the Colonies].

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

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FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 1438 D. 1.55 a.m. 10th May, 1948.
10th May, 1948. R. 7.10 a.m. 10th May, 1948.

Repeated to: Washington.

MOST IMMEDIATE

TOP SECRET

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 1438 of 10th May, repeated to Washington.

My telegram No. 1425.

My immediately preceding telegram contains present text, which is still subject to revision of the simplified trusteeship agreement which United States delegation now have in mind.

2. You will notice that there is no provision in this text under which forces would be available to counter any attempt by the Soviet Union to exploit the situation in Palestine. With this object in view, the Americans are considering the insertion of an Article designating certain Governments (their first choice being United States France and the United Kingdom) to render "Advice and assistance" to the High Commissioner.

[Advance copies sent to Secretary of State for Colonies]

[Copy sent to Resident Clerk]

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FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No.1439
10th May,1948.

D. 2.15 a.m. 10th May,1948.

R. 7.35 a.m. 10th May,1948.

Repeated to Washington Saving.

MOST IMMEDIATE
TOP SECRET

addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.1439 of 10th May, repeated for information to Washington Saving.

My immediately preceding telegram.

Following is text.

Preamble.

Whereas the United Kingdom as Mandatory Power will cease to exercise authority over Palestine on May 15th 1948 : and

Whereas the maintenance and furtherance of international peace and security require that the United Nations should as a matter of emergency exercise temporary authority in Palestine; and

Whereas Chapter XIII of the Charter authorises the United Nations to exercise such temporary authority;

Now therefore the General Assembly of the United Nations without prejudice to the ultimate political settlement, decides that temporary authority in Palestine shall, from May 15th,1948 be exercised in accordance with the following articles:

Article 2.

The administering authority shall exercise such powers of administration legislation, and jurisdiction over Palestine as are set forth in these articles and as may be subsequently determined to be necessary by the Trusteeship Council.

Article 3.

A High Commissioner for Palestine shall be appointed by the Trusteeship Council and be subject to it in the exercise of his duties.

Article 4./....

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New York (UKDEL) No.1439 to Foreign Office.

- 2 -

Article 4.

The High Commissioner shall encourage local or community authorities in such a way as to secure their maximum co-operation. He shall use his good offices to arrange for the operation of such common services as may be agreed upon by the principal communities.

Article 5.

The High Commissioner is empowered to exercise the right of the administering authority to organise and make use of locally recruited police and volunteer forces.

Article 6.

The High Commissioner shall co-operate with the Truce Commission for Palestine appointed by the Security Council on 23rd April 1948 and shall give it every possible assistance in carrying out the truce resolution adopted by the Security Council on 17th April 1948 and any further truce arrangements concluded by the Truce Commission or otherwise under the authority of the United Nations. In connexion with his duties under this article the High Commissioner may communicate with the Security Council through the Secretary General.

Article 7.

The High Commissioner shall use his best endeavours to mediate between the principal communities in Palestine with the object of arriving at agreement on the future government of Palestine.

Article 8.

The expenses of the Government of Palestine shall be defrayed from the revenues of Palestine, supplemented, when deemed necessary by the Trusteeship Council, by funds provided by the United Nations either through subsidies or through loans repayable from future revenues of Palestine.

Article 9.

The special Municipal Commissioner for the city of Jerusalem appointed in accordance with the recommendation of the General Assembly of 6th May 1948 shall continue to exercise his functions under the authority of the United Nations High Commissioner.

Article 10.

The High Commissioner shall use his best endeavours in co-operation with communities and authorities concerned to assure the protection of the Holy Places, religious buildings and sites in Palestine.

Article 11./....

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New York (UKDEL) telegram No.1439 to Foreign Office.

- 3 -

Article 11.

The High Commissioner may, with a view to the promotion of the welfare of the inhabitants of Palestine, invite the assistance and co-operation of appropriate specialised agencies of the United Nations such as the World Health Organisation, of the International Red Cross, and of other governmental or non-governmental organisations of a humanitarian and non-political character.

Article 12.

The temporary authority of the United Nations as set forth in these articles shall terminate on January 1st, 1950 or on such earlier date as may be determined by the General Assembly or on notification to the Trusteeship Council by the High Commissioner that an agreement has been concluded between the principal communities of Palestine for the future government of Palestine.

The General Assembly calls upon all persons, organisations and governments to co-operate in the implementation of this resolution and to refrain from any action which would be inconsistent with this resolution.

[Advance copies sent to Secretary of State for Colonies].

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Palestine
EASTERN

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21 MAY 1948 89

E 6077 / 4 / 31/G

New York
(U.K. Del)
1441
10 - 5 - 48
11 - 5 - 48

Palestine - Proposal for Special
U.N. Commission.

Last Paper.

E 6076

References.

E 6076 / 4 / G

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) Palestine Distrn.
✓ 12 May
Tel) New York 1994
Rtd. to W'lon 5137
4th May
8) Mr. Galworthy, C.O.
Mr. Mathison, C.O.
Lord Histovel, C.O.
✓ 12 May.

OVER.

(Action completed.)

gm 14/5

(Index.)

WJH.

Next Paper.

(Minutes)

This is the "Anglo-Canadian" Draft Resolution
~~text~~ which aims at giving effect to the Colonial
Secretary's suggestions for a special U.N. Commission.

D. Alfson
11/10

Tel. HND

JAB 3

12.5

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(Tel) New York 1995
✓ 11th May.

Rptd wth 5138.

(E) w^r Galsworthy C.O.
w^r Matheson, C.O.
hand historiel, C.O.
✓ 12 May.

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Minutes.

P.W. 88
E

Mr. Fitzmaurice.

After vainly trying to contact you, we had a meeting with the Colonial Office and the United Nations Political Department this morning about the latest American proposals for trusteeship for Palestine. As a result a telegram has been sent to New York on the lines of the attached draft. We have since received New York telegrams Nos. 1438 and 1439 of which copies are attached. We ought to send any further comments on these urgently. Have you any views?

I am also asking the Colonial Office trusteeship experts for their views.

J.A.B. Brown
10th May, 1948.

I think our tel. to N.Y. is all right though I am doubtful how far forceful legal cases for such a kind as a naval blockade of Palestine can be put on the basis of a mere Assembly Res. & Res. However, it may serve as a defensible pretext.

As regards the U.S. trusteeship proposals I think the preamble parts are very defective. They spite fail to bring out clearly

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that is a trusteeship that is being
 set up & that the UN itself is the
 trustee. I cannot square these
 passages with Art. 81 of the Charter
 which is quite explicit. Nor do I like
 the ~~substantive~~ use of the term
 "temporary authority" - Cap. II of the
 Charter says nothing about "authorizing"
 the UN as such (or anyone else) to exercise
 "temporary authority" over territories.
 Its effect doubtless is to enable
 UN authority to be exercised over a
 territory by way of trusteeship & of
 course a trusteeship can always be for
 a limited period or specific purpose.
 I am afraid that the real fear which is
 now expressed with full a hand to people
 who wish to contend that it is purporting
 to do something for which the Charter
 makes no provision.

As regards the substantive term, my
 main criticism is that it may do not

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Sufficiently bring out what are
the aims & purposes of the
Committee as stated in the
Commissioner's report for.
All this can be put in a very
brief statement, but should there
not be one or more articles
expressly stating it?

E. J. Hume
10/8

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Cypher/OTP

DIPLOMATIC SECRET DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 1441
10th May, 1948.

D. 11.8 a.m. 10th May, 1948.
R. 4.42 p.m. 10th May, 1948.

Repeated to Washington Saving

MOST IMMEDIATE
TOP SECRET

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 1441 of 10th May repeated for information to Washington Saving.

My immediately preceding telegram.

Following is text:-

The General Assembly notes with grave concern the developments in Palestine since 29th November 1947; considers that it is not expedient at this time to impose a political settlement in Palestine; deems it of the utmost importance that every opportunity and facility for mediation and the peaceful resolution of their differences be provided to the Arab and Jewish communities in Palestine following the termination of the Mandate on 15th May 1948; approves the efforts of the Mandatory Power, the Trusteeship Council and the International Red Cross to effect a truce in Jerusalem, and of the Truce Commission for Palestine established by the Security Council to procure a truce throughout Palestine; resolves therefore to establish a Commission (consisting of representatives of the member states represented on the Truce Commission for Palestine) to exercise the following functions on the termination of the Mandate:

(1) to use its good offices to arrange for the operation of such common services as may be agreed upon by the two communities;

(2) to effect liaison between the two communities in Palestine in respect of the central services and other matters of common concern;

(3) to endeavour to arrange for United Nations custody of Government property, to the extent to which agreement may be reached between the two communities and under arrangements made with the Government of the United Kingdom, pending a decision on the future Government of Palestine;

(4) to use its best endeavours to mediate between the two communities in Palestine with the object of arriving at an agreed solution for future Government of Palestine;

/(5) to communicate

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MAY 1948

From New York to Foreign Office No. 1441

-2-

(5) to communicate to the Secretary General for transmission to the members of the United Nations the terms of any agreement concluded between the two communities in respect to the future Government of Palestine;

(6) to report to the Secretary General for transmission to the members of the United Nations in respect of the situation in Palestine following 15th May and immediately in respect of any significant developments bearing in mind the terms of this resolution and of the truce resolution adopted by the Security Council.

The General Assembly further calls upon the two communities in Palestine, the members of the United Nations, and all other States,

(a) To co-operate with the Commission to enable it to fulfil its functions of conservation, mediation and peaceful settlement to the best effect,

(b) to co-operate with the Truce Commission appointed by the Security Council.

The General Assembly declares that this resolution shall remain in effect until the situation in Palestine has been re-examined by the General Assembly or until an agreement has been reached between the two communities on a future form of Government for Palestine.

[Copies sent to Secretary of State for the Colonies]

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

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BABB

CYPHER

194

Despatched 3 M.

Draft.

U.K. Del. New York

Telegram.

No. 1994

(Date) May 11

Repeat to :-

Washington
75137

BABB
11.5

with night
11.5

~~Ev. Chair.~~

~~Code~~

Cypher.

Distribution :-

Diplomatic Secret

Copies to :-

Mr Calhoun
Mr Matheson
Lord Hylton
C.C.
12/5.

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(32054) W.14000/147 100,000 6/47 A.S.E.W.Ltd. Cp.685

~~Most Immediate~~
~~Secret~~

11 May
Add UK del N York No 1994 ref for info to Washington.
Your tels. Nos. 1438, 1439, 1440, 1441 and
1455 [of May 10 : Palestine Resolutions].

Discussion recorded in your tel. 1455 lends support to our view that whatever the merits of trusteeship as against an Assembly resolution, it will be impossible to secure passage of the former because of lack of time, lack of support in the Assembly and lack of agreement by Arabs and Jews to trusteeship in any form, whether for the whole of Palestine or for Jerusalem only. The rapidly approaching end of the Mandate and the expressions of opinion at the sub-Committee meeting make it seem ~~to be~~ more desirable to concentrate on securing approval for action on the lines of the Colonial Secretary's proposal in the simplest possible terms. We understood that the U.S. Delegation agreed with this view but, for mainly legal and internal reasons, thought it necessary to clothe this central idea in a form of trusteeship. The text of their draft in your telegram No. 1439 confirms our worst fears of this procedure. Our ^{detailed} objections to it are set out in my immediately following telegram. The main difficulties ^{are} that the draft distorts the trusteeship conception in a most dangerous manner, ~~expressed in my immediately following telegram particularly by suggesting that the trusteeship chapter of the Charter authorises the United Nations to exercise temporary authority, and secondly that in order to make the distortion appear/~~

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appear rather less than it really is the draft accords several kinds of functions to the trusteeship authority which were not included in the Colonial Secretary's proposal and which alter the whole character of that proposal. This confirms our impression that it is impossible to do what is required by means of trusteeship.

2. We greatly prefer your draft in your telegram ^(uu) 1441. It has the great advantage of building on the existing United Nations Organisation, i.e. the Truce Commission, instead of creating a new and separate body. Our only comment is that the draft does not ^{cover} provide for the point mentioned in paragraph of your telegram 1438, ~~namely~~ i.e. for the possible provision of means to check infiltration of the import of war material and to isolate the conflict. We suggest that this could quite easily be done by inserting a new function for the commission as No. 5 as follows:-
"To take all practicable steps to secure the observance of the Security Council Truce resolution of April 17 and with this object to seek advice and assistance from other powers as it may seem necessary."

There would also be two sections added to the general appeal at the end of the resolution as (c) and (d) -

"(c) In particular to refrain from assisting and encouraging all activity likely to provoke or intensify conflict or disorder in Palestine.

(d) To provide such advice and assistance as may be requested by the Commission."

3. If there is any doubt about the continuing authority of the Security Council Truce ^{Resolution} ~~Commission~~ ^{you} could no doubt add words to show that this remained in force. Please/

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in suitable terms
4. Please give our views to the U.S. Delegation, emphasising that we both seek the same objectives and that our comments only relate to the means of doing this. You should, however, make it clear that we feel now even more strongly than before that a resolution on the lines suggested by you, with the above amendments, is greatly preferable to a trusteeship agreement and that we would in any case have to see the latter very considerably modified before we could ~~now~~ express approval of it.

5. As regards the American objection quoted in your telegram 1455 you should say that in our view Article 14 of the Charter provides sufficient legal basis and that if there is any doubt on this point there seems no reason ~~to us~~ why we should not also invoke Article 22 of the Charter. The Commission would then be a subsidiary organ of the Assembly set up by the Assembly in virtue of Article 14. This conception seems to us to have greater legal validity than the distorted kind of trusteeship which the Americans have proposed.

6. Please let us know if the French and Belgian representatives continue to show signs of unwillingness to accept the responsibilities proposed in your draft resolution, in order that we may, if necessary, try to influence their governments.

7./

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7. The main criticism of draft mentioned in your telegram 1455 is that it is made to depend upon the prior conclusion of a truce. The virtue of the Colonial Secretary's idea and of your draft resolution is that this is not a necessary pre-condition.

8. You will no doubt follow whatever procedure seems best to secure early ^{realisation} acceptance of your draft as amended.

9. Of course if there was in time, a general agreement on trusteeship suitably amended we would not need to stand out alone against it.

Yours faithfully

Of course if there was in time general agreement on a trusteeship suitably amended we would not want to stand out alone against it.

[Copies sent to ME Secretariat.]

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Secret.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 1994.

May 11th, 1948. D. 3.20.p.m. May 11th, 1948.

Repeated to Washington No. 5137.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

SECRET

Addressed United Kingdom Delegation New York No. 1994 of 11th May, repeated for information to Washington.

Your telegrams Nos. 1438, 1439, 1440, 1441 and 1455 [of May 10th: Palestine Resolutions].

Discussion recorded in your telegram 1455 lends support to our view that whatever the merits of trusteeship as against an Assembly resolution, it will be impossible to secure passage of the former because of lack of time, lack of support in the Assembly and lack of agreement by Arabs and Jews to trusteeship in any form, whether for the whole of Palestine or for Jerusalem only. The rapidly approaching end of the Mandate and the expressions of opinion at the sub-Committee meeting make it seem more desirable to concentrate on securing approval for action on the lines of the Colonial Secretary's proposal in the simplest possible terms. We understood that the United States Delegation agreed with this view but, for mainly legal and internal reasons, thought it necessary to clothe this central idea in a form of trusteeship. The text of their draft in your telegram No. 1439 confirms our worst fears of this procedure. Our detailed objections to it are set out in my immediately following telegram. The main difficulties are that the draft distorts the trusteeship conception in a dangerous manner, as explained in my immediately following telegram, and secondly that in order to make the distortion appear rather less than it really is the draft accords several kinds of functions to the trusteeship authority which were not included in the Colonial Secretary's proposal and which alter the whole character of that proposal. This confirms our impression that it is impossible to do what is required by means of trusteeship.

/2. We greatly prefer

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Foreign Office to New York telegram No. 1994.

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2. We greatly prefer your draft in your telegram 1441. It has the great advantage of building on the existing United Nations Organisation, i.e. the Truce Commission, instead of creating a new and separate body. Our only comment is that the draft does not cover the point mentioned in paragraph 2 of your telegram 1438, i.e. the possible provision of means to check infiltration and the import of war material and to isolate the conflict. We suggest that this could quite easily be done by inserting a new function for the commission as No. 5 as follows:- "To take all practicable steps to secure the observance of the Security Council Truce resolution of April 17th and with this object to seek advice and assistance from other powers as it may deem necessary." There would also be two sections added to the general appeal at the end of the resolution as (c) and (d) -

"(c) In particular to refrain from assisting and encouraging all activity likely to provoke or intensify conflict or disorder in Palestine.

(d) To provide such advice and assistance as may be requested by the Commission."

3. If there is any doubt about the continuing authority of the Security Council Truce Resolution you could no doubt add words to show that this remained in force.

4. Please give our views in suitable terms to the United States Delegation, emphasising that we both seek the same objectives and that our comments only relate to the means of doing this. You should, however, make it clear that we feel now even more strongly than before that a resolution on the lines suggested by you, with the above amendments, is greatly preferable to a trusteeship agreement and that we would in any case have to see the latter very considerably modified before we could express approval of it.

5. As regards the American objection quoted in your telegram 1455 you should say that in our view Article 14 of the Charter provides sufficient legal basis and that if there is any doubt on this point there seems no reason why we should not also invoke Article 22 of the Charter. The Commission would then be a

/subsidiary organ

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Foreign Office to New York telegram No. 1994.

-3-

subsidiary organ of the Assembly set up by the Assembly in virtue of Article 14. This conception seems to us to have greater legal validity than the distorted kind of trusteeship which the Americans have proposed.

6. Please let us know if the French and Belgian representatives continue to show signs of unwillingness to accept the responsibilities proposed in your draft resolution, in order that we may, if necessary, try to influence their governments.

7. The main criticism of draft mentioned in your telegram 1255 is that it is made to depend upon the prior conclusion of a truce. The virtue of the Colonial Secretary's idea and of your draft resolution is that this is not a necessary pre-condition.

8. You will no doubt follow whatever procedure seems best to secure early acceptance of your draft as amended.

9. Of course if there was in time general agreement on a trusteeship suitably amended we would not want to stand out alone against it.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat.]

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Draft.

U.K. Del. New York

Most Immediate
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Addressed to U.K. Del. New York telno. 1995
of ~~1995~~ May 11th
Repeated for information to Washington

Telegram.

No. 1995

(Date) May 11

Repeat to:—

Washington
5138

My immediately preceding telegram.
Following are more detailed comments on
U.S. draft:—
The preamble is very defective. It quite
fails to bring out clearly that it is a trustee-
ship that is being set up and that the United
Nations itself is the trustee. ^{admin. in living authority.} This cannot be
squared with Article 81 of the Charter which ~~is~~
~~is more or less in line with~~ ^{quite explicit.}

MTU tonight
11.5

~~En-Clair~~
~~Code~~
Cypher.

Distribution:—

Diplomatic
Secret

Copies to:—

Lord Lintell
Mr. Colson
Mr. Matheson
C.C.
12/5

2. The use of the term "temporary authority"
is undesirable. Chapter 12 of the Charter
says nothing about authorising the United Nations
as such, or anyone else, to exercise ^{"temporary"}
authority over territories. The effect of the
Chapter doubtless is to enable United Nations
authority to be exercised over a territory by
way of trusteeship and trusteeship can always
be for a limited period or for a specific purpose
^{within the scope of Art 76.}
But the way this is expressed in the American
draft will give a handle to those who wish to
contend that the draft is purporting to do
something for which the Charter makes no
provision.

3. As regards the substantive terms of the
draft, the main criticism is that they do not
sufficiently bring out what are the ^{aims}
and purposes of the trusteeship or what the
importance

High/

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High Commissioner is to work for. All this can be gathered by implication but should there not be one or more articles expressly stating it.

4. We do not like the first paragraph of the preamble since it might be held to mean that we had not laid down the Mandate but only ceased to exercise our authority while retaining our responsibility under the Mandate.

5. Article 8 of the draft is defective since the Trusteeship Council cannot vote United Nations funds.= This can only be done by the Assembly.

This point will presumably not arise in the same way in regard to your draft resolution in your telegram No.41. since the Commission would presumably not have power to spend any funds except merely those required only for its own expenses. You will no doubt consider whether it is necessary to make some provision for this in the draft.

Copy sent to Mr. [unclear]

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Cypher/OTP
Secret

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FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 1995
11th May, 1948. D. 2.40 p.m. 11th May, 1948.

Repeated to Washington No. 5138

MOST IMMEDIATE
SECRET

Addressed to United Kingdom Delegation New York telegram No. 1995 of 11th May repeated for information to Washington.

My immediately preceding telegram.

Following are more detailed comments on United States draft:-

The preamble is very defective. It quite fails to bring out clearly that it is a trusteeship that is being set up and that the United Nations itself is the administering authority. This cannot be squared with Article 81 of the Charter which requires these matters to be explicitly stated.

2. The use of the term "temporary authority" is undesirable. Chapter 12 of the Charter says nothing about authorising the United Nations as such, or anyone else, to exercise "temporary" authority over territories. The effect of the Chapter doubtless is to enable United Nations authority to be exercised over a territory by way of trusteeship and trusteeship can always be for a limited period or for a specific purpose within the scope of Article 76. But the way this is expressed in the American draft will give a handle to those who wish to contend that the draft is purporting to do something for which the Charter makes no provision.

3. As regards the substantive terms of the draft, the main criticism is that they do not sufficiently bring out what are the aims and purposes of the trusteeship or what the High Commissioner is to work for. All this can be gathered by implication but should there not be one or more articles expressly stating it.

4. We do not like the first paragraph of the preamble since it might be held to mean that we had not laid down the Mandate but only ceased to exercise our authority while retaining our responsibility under the Mandate.

/5. Article 8 of the

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-2-

5. Article 8 of the draft is defective since the Trusteeship Council cannot vote United Nations funds. This can only be done by the Assembly. This point will presumably not arise in the same way in regard to your draft resolution in your telegram No. 41, since the Commission would presumably not have power to spend any funds except merely those required only for its own expenses. You will no doubt consider whether it is necessary to make some provision for this in the draft.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

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FO 371 | **68550**

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85	Palestine	E 6081 /G 100
E 6081 /4 / ^{31/G} U.S. Ambassador Conversation. 10 - 5 - 48 11 - 5 - 48.	Palestine <hr/>	
Last Paper E 6077	(Minutes) <i>D. Dalfour</i> <i>12/5</i> <i>BABP</i> <i>12.5</i>	
References		
(Print) As for Dip Secret.		
(How disposed of) a) hand Amerisapel to box. No. 676 10 th May b) Diplomatic Secret Distr. 13 th May		
(Action completed) 14/5	(Index) 14/5	
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Registry
No. E6081/4/9.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft. despatch.

WASHINGTON.

No. 676

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

*Print as for
dip. Secret.*

3148 WL 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.A.S.

TOP SECRET

E6081

11 MAY 1948

FOREIGN OFFICE.

10th May, 1948. 101

In the course of conversation with me to-day (10th May) the U.S. Ambassador raised the question of Palestine. He had communicated to me a note containing a message from the U.S. Secretary of State (see my telegram No. 1964 to New York) and asked whether I thought the statements in it could be taken ~~in~~ as correct. I told Mr. Douglas that we were in communication with our Delegation in New York but I did not yet know exactly what Mr. Creech-Jones had said. I could say, however, for the Ambassador's private information, that it had always been our hope that the Jews would act sensibly and keep within their own zones, ~~in~~ ^{that} Jerusalem would be put under a truce and that King Abdullah might use his forces temporarily to maintain order in the Arab areas, ~~which~~ ^{that} would allow time to discuss the whole situation and ^{possibly} ~~probably~~ find a settlement. ^{to be found} Provided also that the United Nations approved this as a temporary expedient there was some hope of settlement ~~as described in my telegram No. 1424A~~ as proposed by the Colonial Secretary (see New York telegram No. 1424A). On the other hand, if there were no truce, the Colonial Secretary's proposal could still be adopted, which was what I understood to be his intention.

2. I undertook to let the Ambassador know as soon as I had heard more details of what the Colonial Secretary had said. *MS*

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E	E 6085
	11 MAY 1948

1548 PALESTINE

Registry Number E6085/4/31 TELEGRAM FROM No. Sir, Alec Kirk- bride AMMAN Dated 310 Received in Registry 10th May 11th "	<u>Palestine Truce.</u> Refers Foreign Office telegram No, 307 to Jedda. (E6014/4/31) Personal message delivered to Azzam and to other addressees 9th May
--	---

Last Paper. 6082	(Minutes)
References.	<i>ms. 13/15 May 12</i>

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

*S. Palestine sheet
May 92*

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>

Next Paper.
E6087

32003 F.O.P.

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E 6085

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DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION

FROM AMMAN TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir A. Kirkbride D. 6.09 p.m. 10th May, 1948.
No. 310 R. 8.07 p.m. 10th May, 1948.
10th May, 1948.
And to British Middle East Office, No. 56.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 310
of 10th May, and British Middle East Office.

Your telegram No. 307 to Jeddah. E

I delivered your personal message to Azzam
and to other addressees here yesterday.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

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E 6087

11 MAY 1948

PALESTINE

Registry Number E6087/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM Mr Houston-Boswall BEIRUT No. 342 SECRET

Dated May 10, 1948

Received in Registry May 11, 1948

Communication of Palestine Truce Proposals to the Syrian Government.

Refers to Beirut telegram 541 (E6009/4/G) and New York telegram 1436 (E6011/4/G)

United States Chargé d'Affaires at Damascus has been asked to communicate the truce proposals to the Syrian Government in connexion with discussions which were to take place at Damascus on May 10. (Rptd : Washington and U.K. Del. New York)

Last Paper.

E6085

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Parenting distribution May 12

(Action completed.)

Index

Handwritten initials and dates

Next Paper.

E6089.

(Minutes.)

The text referred to is the latest, to date, and it is held, a copy that the Americans have made it known in Beirut and Damascus.

St. Balfour 12/11

Handwritten initials

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E 8087 | 165

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP

DIPLOMATIC (SECRET) DISTRIBUTION

FROM BEIRUT TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Houstoun-Boswall. D. 6.46 p.m. 10th May, 1948.
No. 342

R. 8.12 p.m. 10th May, 1948.

10th May, 1948.

Repeated to: Damascus
Bagdad
Amman
Jedda
Cairo
British Middle East Office
United Kingdom Delegation, New York,
Washington.

SECRET

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 342 of May 10th, repeated for information to Damascus, Bagdad, Amman, Jedda, Cairo, British Middle East Office, United Kingdom Delegation, New York and Washington.

My telegram No. 341. Palestine.

This morning my United States colleague having received text of truce proposals which has now reached me in United Kingdom Delegation telegram No. 1456 to you at my suggestion telephoned to United States Charge d'Affaires at Damascus and advised him to communicate these proposals forthwith to the Syrian Government in connexion with discussions which were to take place at Damascus to-day.

London pass to United Kingdom Delegation, New York and Washington as my telegrams Nos. 27 and 24 respectively.

[Repeated to Washington and United Kingdom Delegation, New York]

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

[Copies sent to Secretary of State for the Colonies]

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696	E	E 6089 106
1943	PALESTINE	11 MAY 1948
Registry Number E6089/4/31 TELEGRAM FROM Sir H. Mack BAGDAD No. 514 CONFIDENTIAL Dated May 11, 1948 Received in Registry May 11, 1948	<u>Palestine truce proposals.</u> Refers to Bagdad telegram 506 (E6015/4/31) and New York telegram 1436 (E6011/4/G). Conversation with the Regent regarding the attitude of the Arab States towards the truce proposals. He also mentioned that two suspected Jews in Arab dress had been arrested in Bagdad.	
Last Paper. E 6087.	(Minutes.) Para 2. It is a pity that Sir H. Mack was not in a position to comment on the latest draft of the truce.	
References.	<i>Dr. Halpern</i> 12/11 <i>R. H. Burton</i> 12.5 <i>M. U. S.</i> 12.5	
(Print.)		
(How disposed of.)	<i>Palestine distribution</i> <i>May 13</i>	
(Action completed.)	(Index.)	
Next Paper.	6091	

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DIPLMATIC SECRET DISTRIBUTION

FROM BAGDAD TO FOREIGN OFFICE E 6089

Sir H. Mack.
No. 514.

D. 10.42. a.m. 11th May 1948

11th May 1948.

R. 1.0. p.m. 11th May 1948.

Repeated to Beirut,) Immediate
Damascus,) Immediate
B.M.E.O., Cairo,	
Amman,	
Jedda,	
Jerusalem,	
Washington,	
U.K. Del. New York.	

IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 514 of May 11th repeated for information immediate to Beirut, Damascus, and to B.M.E.O. Cairo, Amman, Jedda, Jerusalem, Washington, U.K. Delegation New York.

My telegram No. 506.

Palestine.

The Regent told me last night that [gp. undec.] were in favour of accepting truce and that Iraqi representative of the Arab League meeting had been so instructed. Syrian Prime Minister would not commit himself in discussions in Bagdad and Lebanese Prime Minister had given the impression of being opposed to the truce but the Regent did not think he had finally made up his mind.

2. I told the Regent roughly of modifications in United Kingdom Delegation New York telegram No. 1436 and added that I did not know whether you would regard them as substantial modifications of previous draft. He gave me the impression that [gp. undec.] Government would accept your advice.

3. We spoke of a remark which Syrian Prime Minister had made at our meeting on Sunday to the effect that despite Deir Yasim and other Jewish atrocities in Palestine there had been no reprisals against a single Jew in any Arab country. The Regent said that he was very worried because two suspected Jews in Arab dress had been arrested

/that day at Bagdad



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Bagdad telegram No. 514 to Foreign Office

-2-

that day at Bagdad west of airport where some military aircraft had been parked on account of recent rise of the river. If they proved to be Jews and the news spreads around Bagdad he feared reprisals.

Foreign Office please pass to Washington and U.K. Delegation New York as my telegrams 36 and 21.

[Repeated to Washington and U.K. Delegation
New York.]

[Advance copies sent to Secretary of State for
the Colonies.]

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat.]

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END.

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